A Report on the District of Rungpore

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History

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A REPORT

ON

DISTRICT OF RUNGPORE

BY

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A REPORT

ON

THE DISTRICT OF RUNGPORE.

PART I.—INTRODUCTORY.

I.—The Country.

RUNGPORE lies between north latitude 25° 4′ and 26° 19′, and east ongitude 88° 46′ and 89° 55′. It is bounded on the north by the listrict of Julpigoree, on the north-east by the state of Cooch Behar, n the east by the river Brahmaputra and the districts of Gowalpara nd Mymensingh, on the south by the district of Bograh, and on the outh-west and west by the district of Dinagepore.

Its greatest length from north-west to south-east (the run of the listrict) is 96 miles, and its greatest breadth from east to west is 70 niles. Its area is 3,788 square miles.

The whole country is flat; there a[illegible] no natural elevations of ny kind. To the north are sandy plains of large extent, the remains f old water-courses, in the depressions of which are found loam and lay. The rest of the district is low, with alternate sandy and arthy soil, interspersed with small but numerous marshes, and quite alf of the country is under water during the height of the rains. he dip of the land is from north-west to south-east, and the rivers all un or meander in that direction.

The following are the principal rivers :—

The Brahmaputra forms the eastern boundary of Rungpore, divid- ng it from Gowalpara and Mymensingh; but some alluvial land belong- ng to this district lies on its left bank adjoining Gowalpara. It has een for some years steadily encroaching on its right bank. At Chil- nari the police station has been twice removed further inland within he last five years, and at Kallygunge a large brick-house, belonging o a Calcutta firm, which was situated more than a mile from the river ank, has been washed into the stream, which is still breaking away vestwards.

The Teesta or Trisrota, called by the hill people the Rungu, lescends from the Himalayas between Sikkim and Bhootan, and nters Rungpore from Julpigoree. It has, at various times, traversed he whole of the district, and its old beds are to be met with everywhere.

It has now a south-easterly course of 110 miles within our borders, and falls into the Brahmaputra, six miles north of Kallygunge. Previous to the year 1787, it had a south-west course, joined the Atrey river in the Dinagepore district, and fell into the Pudda; but during the great inundations of that year, which mark an epoch in the history of Rungpore, it forsook its old bed, burst into the Ghaghat river, overflowed the country, and, finally, forced an outlet through one of its old courses in a south-east direction into the Brahmaputra.

Since that time it has had another change. In the early part of this century it forsook a westward bend of about forty miles in the upper part of its course, taking a less circuitous bend in the opposite direction. It has since adhered to its course then formed, but with alarming encroachments on its sandy banks in different places. A large mart, Ghoramara, on the western bank, has been pushed gradually backward, until not a vestige remains of the village from which it takes its name.

The Ghaghat passes through the centre of the district. It formerly branched off from the Teesta, and, previous to the change in the course of that river last century, was an important channel of communication in these parts; the residents' bungalows, the Company's factories, and the old capital, Mahigunge, stretched along its banks; but the rush of the great body of water in the new Teesta starved the Ghaghat, its opening from the Teesta has nearly silted up, and while it still exists as a sluggish stream-draining surface water, a western branch alone is open, leaving the bed of the old stream a stagnant marsh of five miles length through the station. The Ghaghat now, after a very circuitous course of 114 miles, passes into the Bograh district, and, there joining with other streams, finds its way into the Brahmaputra.

The Kurutiya skirts the west of Rungpore, and has a special interest from its having formed the boundary between the Kamrup and Bengal kingdoms at the time of the Mahabharat, and since then been generally the boundary of the rule of the successive Bengal dynasties eastward. The several changes in the course of the Teesta have left in the west of the district a maze of old water-courses and stagnant *jheels*, and it is well nigh impossible to trace the course of the former rivers. Buchanan, who travelled in these parts in 1809, describes as the upper part of the Kurutiya what is now known as the Kurto river, which flows from the hills between the Mahanuddee and the Teesta, and, passing through the Julpigoree district, joins the Atrey in Dinagepore. The Kurutiya, as now known, takes its rise amongst marshes at the north-west corner of the district, and after forming for some distance the boundary between Rungpore and Dinagepore, crosses Govindgunge thannah into the Bograh district. It receives from the east two other streams of much more volume than itself—the Sarbamangla and the Juvaneshvari—the latter of which, separating Coondy from Sorooppore, represents, I imagine, the middle, while the Kurto stands for the upper, course of the ancient Kurutiya.

The other rivers to be noticed, are the Durlah, which for part of its course divides Rungpore from Cooch Behar, and the Sunkosh, which

further to the east emerges from Cooch Behar. Both fall into the Brahmaputra, within the limits of the district.

Of our rivers, only the Brahmaputra and the Teesta are navigable for large boats throughout the year, but all are navigable during the rains.

None of the numerous *bheels*, or marshes, call for special notice. The largest is that of Burrobilla, thannah Pirgunge, which gives its name to a pergunnah. Several of the smaller *bheels* are situated in very inconvenient proximity to the civil station, forming its boundary to the north.

Main roads run to all the neighbouring district towns, to wit Dinagepore, Bograh, Julpigoree, and Cooch Behar, and also to Bugwah and Kallygunge on the Brahmaputra. The latter is the place of call of the Assam steamers, and a great deal of traffic passes between it and Rungpore town.

The roads are all of the 3rd class, unmetalled, and traffic is with difficulty carried on during the rains. None of the rivers are bridged; the culverts over the small streams and drains are of wood, and very rough structures. The amount allotted from the Road Fund was about a third of the sum the district contributed to the same by its ferry and road tolls, and was altogether inadequate to our wants. Under the new system, whereby we shall have the spending of all our toll proceeds, better results may be expected.

The country is well cultivated, and there are comparatively few wild animals. Leopards are met with in many parts, but tigers are confined to the tract lying between the Teesta and the Brahmaputra rivers, and on the *churs* of the latter. Last century, elephant, rhinoceros, bear, and wild buffalo, were to be met with. In 1789, the sum of Rs. 600 was estimated for the year as rewards for killing tigers. In 1871, only one item of Rs. 25 was paid for killing a man-eating tiger. During the twelve months of 1871, 31 persons were killed by wild animals, *i. e.*, 22 by tigers, 2 by pigs, and 7 children eaten by jackals; while 64 died from snake-bite.

II.—The People.

The census returns of this year show our population to be 2,150,179. Of these, 1,291,791 are Mahommedans, 857,179 are Hindus, and 1,209 of other religions; so that the proportion of Mahommedans to Hindus is as 3 to 2. The population per square mile is 567, and the number of people per house is 6·68.

All previous estimates of the population have been very wide of the mark. Our police returns before the census give only half the actual numbers, and those collected from the survey maps (1854–1860), from which something distantly approximating to accuracy might have been looked for, give a result very little nearer. The ameens reported the number of houses in each village, and the total for the district (compiled in this office from the maps) is, not including thannah Govindgunge, which was surveyed in Bograh district, 206,150 houses and an estimated population of 1,001,116, against our present returns,

Govindgunge excepted, of 287,650 houses and a population of 1,962,905.

Of earlier estimates we have the following:—

In 1789, the Collector returned the population (including Cooch Behar) as 459,512. (See Appendix A, No. 1.) This I have calculated would give for our present district, by striking out the figures relating to redundant and adding proportionately for deficient tracts, a population of about 400,000.

Buchanan, in 1809, calculates the population for the district under the Magistrate, which included present Gowalpara and Julpigoree, to be 2,735,000, or 2,084,000 for the district, according to its present limits. It is difficult to come to any definite conclusion as to the increase of population in this district from these discrepant data. For purposes of comparison, the survey and the police returns must be set aside as absolutely useless. Further, it is clear that Buchanan's estimate is very much beyond the truth.

According to it, the population was almost the same in 1809 as that of the present time, after a prosperous period of over sixty years. When Buchanan went over the land it was fairly cultivated, but there was still a large quantity of good land left that had not come under the plough; and it is out of the question to suppose that there has been no increase of population since his time. Very little land is left uncultivated now; the complaint all over the country is that there is not enough grazing ground for the cattle.

Buchanan arrived at his figures in the following manner. He passed through a great part of the district, and from his personal observation and enquiries in every direction, he made a calculation of the quantity of cultivated land—then assuming that a plough would cultivate fifteen beegahs or five acres, for every plough he counted five persons of agricultural population—and added to his results certain proportions for the non-agricultural portion of the people. Now, taking as correct his calculation of cultivated land a very large assumption, it seems to me that the apportionment of five persons, agricultural population, to a plough is excessive. The families in this district are small; the boys begin early to follow the plough, and many are compelled to remain unmarried to a comparatively late age, because the well-to-do classes of the agriculturists monopolize more than their fair share of the women. I think a calculation of three to a plough would be much nearer the truth, and this would give the population in 1809, on Buchanan's data, at 1,200,000, which number tallies very fairly with the other facts of the case to be noticed.

Bykuntpore, a pergunnah at the extreme north of the district, (now in Julpigoree), had never come under Mahommedan rule, and all accounts tend to show that at the time of the permanent settlement the number of Mahommedans in the pergunnah was numerically of no account; yet here Buchanan reports that he found half of the population to be Mahommedans, and his return of the two thannahs comprised in the pergunnah would indicate that the Mahommedans outnumbered the Hindus. The explanation is, that the Bykuntpore Rajah after the

settlement brought in a large number of Mahommedan immigrants from Dinagepore to cultivate the waste lands, so that, as regards this part of the country, the population had more than doubled in twenty years. The same was the case with other parts also. The generally disastrous period for years preceding the permanent settlement had depopulated the country. The zemindar of Munthona, chakla Futtehpore, on whose estate the town of Rungpore stands, represented in 1790 that large tracts had become depopulated and overrun with jungle, in which there were tigers, buffaloes, deer, and wild beasts of all sorts.

Buchanan estimated that the population had increased one-third during the preceding twenty years. I would estimate the increase to have been such, mainly by immigration, as in many parts to double the population, and, taking the district as a whole, to give an increase of two-thirds on the population of 1789. If then we calculate a further increase of two-thirds for the sixty-three years, between 1809 and 1872, which seems a not excessive estimate, the figures would stand thus in round numbers :—

Population in	1789	...	720,000
Ditto	1809	...	1,200,000
Ditto	1872	...	2,150,179 (census figures.)

That the Collector should, in 1789, understate the number of the people was inevitable, since it was the interest of the zemindars to show as poor a state of the lands as possible; but one manifest error in his return may be corrected. The proportion of children to adults given by him is as 1 to 4. Our census returns give the proportion as nearly 1 to 2. The same proportion, no doubt, held eighty years ago. If then we add one-fifth to our number given above, we have a population in 1789 of 480,000, or two-thirds of the number obtained as the result of our deductions: and with the example of how far the police and survey returns were short of the truth, this estimate of 1789 does not appear wrong in any inconceivable degree; and the figures 720,000 we have arrived at above for that year are probably as near an approximation to the truth as can be obtained.

Rungpore contains one municipality at head-quarters, stretching from Dhap on the west, to Mahigunge on the east; seven miles long, and with a varying width of from half a mile to a mile; pressed close between marshes on the north and the stagnant Ghaghat on the south. It was formed in 1869, and has an annual income of Rs. 6,000 to 6,500, with a population of 14,400. Buchanan, with the excess which characterized all his estimates, put down the population of the town of Rungpore at 15,000 to 20,000.

The relative proportion of Hindus and Mahommedans is the same now as it was in 1809. The former outnumber the latter in the three north central thannahs, Forunbari, Dimla, and Jaldaka, comprising chaklas Cazeerhat and Kankina; while the Mahommedans outnumber the Hindus in the other thannahs, and mainly in all that part of the district, and especially in Govindgunge, to the extreme south, which was first conquered by the Mussulman forces.

In thannah Borobari, pergunnah Panga, a stronghold of the Koch race—the Mahommedans—now exceed the Hindus in number; whereas in 1809 the latter had the preponderance; and also in Dimla thannah, the Hindus no longer have the same superiority in number to their rivals as they held at that time. On the other hand, the preponderance of Mahommedans in the central thannahs, Mahigunge and Nisbetgunge, chakla Futtehpore, has been reduced by immigration of Bengal Hindus from other districts.

The indigenous inhabitants of Rungpore are the Koch and other allied Kamrup tribes, who founded the last local dynasty previous to the irruption of the Mahommedans, and their marked Mongol physiognomy is unmistakeable in all that portion of the district which lies round about Cooch (Koch) Behar. In Buchanan's time, the Kamrup tribes numbered half of the Hindu inhabitants of Govindgunge; but the line of demarcation has now been pushed further north. Above a line drawn about thirty miles north of Rungpore town, west of the Teesta, the women of the common people wear the old Kamrup dress, which offers a marked contrast to the common *saree* of Bengal. It consists of a square piece of colored cloth, indigo-striped, passed under the arms and round the back, so as to cross in front, where the upper corners are tucked in, leaving the head and shoulders bare, and reaching to the knees below. All the women, Hindus and Mahommedans alike, dress in this fashion; and they also attend the markets and transact the buying and selling, to the almost total exclusion of the men.

A long list might be procured, giving terms peculiar to the district, which are probably derived from Assam dialects. The main peculiarities in the pronunciation of the people are the elision of initial R, and the substitution of the aspirate H for the initial S. A very common practice is the use of the Hindustani verb *kharid karite*, to express 'to sell' as well as 'to buy.' Among the common people who register deeds of sale, a great number will in this way declare that they have bought their land, when they mean just the opposite.

The people, generally, are of a low type of intelligence, and morals are among the Mahommedans at the lowest ebb. This is mainly owing to the prevalence of polygamy. Every Mahommedan, who can afford it, has two or more wives; and since the proportion of the sexes is nearly equal, the males outnumbering the females slightly, there are not women enough left for the poorer classes, and a system of practical polyandry prevails, and incest is not uncommon. No man's wife is safe: the young (unmarried) men seduce even mothers of families away from their homes; and men, who have one or more wives, of their own will deprive a poorer man of his single wife. Fathers and other male relatives, taking advantage of the scarcity in the marriage market, will, after giving away a woman in marriage and taking her price, get possession of her on occasion of a visit home, and marry her to a second husband, obtaining by this means a second time the purchase-money. Even the women will go through what passes among them for the ceremony of marriage with any number of men in succession in whose possession she may be for the time being, and a wife often runs away more

than once from the same husband, who is only too glad to get her back.

Our criminal returns show an average of one hundred cases per year under the marriage sections of the Penal Code; but this does not include one-half of the charges brought, in the greater number of which no processes are issued; (during the month of September last there were 26 cases of this kind out of a total of 244 cases instituted by petition;) nor, probably, a fifth part of the cases that would be brought, if there were a reasonable prospect of securing the conviction of the offender. But the evidence is always very unsatisfactory in these cases; and it is often difficult to decide whose wife a woman is, or whether she is the legal wife of any, who has, perhaps, married man after man in succession, and between times lived in the bazar, and has probably never been regularly divorced from any one of her husbands; so that convictions can rarely occur. In 1871, of persons tried for these offences, forty-five were released to seven convicted; and of the latter, one was released on appeal. These causes naturally tend to prevent any great increase of population, and I consider that our numbers have been recruited mainly from immigration.

Petty thefts, burglaries, and simple dacoities, are numerous; but there is little or no professional crime properly so called. The number of men who are denounced as living by dishonest practices are legion; but there are, as far as my experience serves, no known gangs who hold together, make raids for plunder, and carry on their occupation systematically. Dacoities with murder seldom occur; and equally rare are severe riots, attended with loss of life. In fact, though there are murders and crimes of violence from private malice here as elsewhere, the crime of this district, generally speaking, is of a pettifogging, rather than violent, character; and litigiousness is largely developed, false cases counting by the hundred.

The number of prisoners confined in the jail on the last day of 1871, were 138 men, 1 woman, Mahommedans, and 73 men Hindus; or nearly 2 Mahommedans to 1 Hindu.

Though Rungpore holds a low place among other districts with respect to the higher education, yet the experience of all who have been brought much into contact with the people, and who have had means of comparing this with other places, coincides to the effect that the simple elements of education are more generally diffused among the lower classes here, than is the case in districts that are considered to be far more advanced.

The Rungpore English school has been established for forty years. It was founded, in 1832, by the zemindars of the district, under the auspices of Mr. Nathaniel Smith, the Judge, who, in various capacities, remained over forty years here, and it was opened by Lord Bentinck, the only Governor-General who has visited our part of the world. For the establishment of the school the zemindars raised a voluntary subscription of Rs. 25,000, the quota of each having, it is said, been apportioned in a list in the form of a round robin; and they were made to understand that whoever did not contribute his share would not be pro-

vided with a chair when he came to visit the authorities. The Rajah of Cooch Behar gave over for the use of the institution a very commodious brick house, the erection of which dates back to Mahommedan times, and which has only lately been vacated by the school, because the Public Works Department would no longer undertake to keep it in repair. A tablet over the entrance door commemorates the fact of the Rajah's gift in the year (Cooch Behar era) 323.

PART II.—ANTIQUITIES.

I.—Bhagadatta and Prithu Rajah.

For the greater part of the information contained under this head, I am indebted to the account of Buchanan. (Edited by Montgomery Martin, published by Allen, 1838.)

In the dim mist of the past, where mythology and history coalesce, Rungpore was included in the kingdom of Kamrup, and the Kurutiya was the boundary between Kamrup and Matsya or Bengal. The Rajah Bhagadatta, in the war of the Mahabharat, espoused the side of Dharjyudhan, and was killed by Arjuna. Besides Rungpore, Kamrup included Assam, Munipore, Jyntea, Cachar, and parts of Mymensingh and Sylhet.

The derivation of the name Rungpore is said to be রঙ্গপুর (Rangapur), the place of pleasure or abode of bliss—Bhagadatta having here a country residence on the Ghaghat. There is another Rungpore in Assam, west of Gowhatty, the Kamrup capital, which also lays claim to the same distinction. Pergunnah Pyrabund, which lies south and west from the Ghaghat, a few miles only from Rungpore town, is called after Pyravati, the daughter of Bhagadatta, who held it as an estate.

According to the doubtful authority of the Ayeen Akbery Bhagadátta had twenty-three successors in his dynasty; and the Yagini Tantra gives some very misty accounts of subsequent kings. Among them is Jalpeshvar, who built the temple of Shiva at Jalpesh, in the Dooars; but putting aside these legends, made up according to the fancy of the annalist, we have genuine local traditions of three dynasties that reigned in Rungpore previous to the close of the fifteenth century.

Of the earliest dynasty, there is trace only of one Prithu Rajah. The ruins of his city lie half in chakla Boda, half in pergunnah Bykuntpore, in the present district of Julpigoree. The accompanying diagram, showing its extent and its present state, is copied from the survey maps (1858-59), with some features added from Buchanan's plan drawn in 1809.

The city consisted of four enclosures, one within the other; the innermost containing the Rajah's palace. In both the inner and middle cities were sub-divisions, separated from each other by ramparts and ditches, dividing each city into several quarters. The outermost city of all was tenanted by the lowest classes of the populace. The place was strongly fortified for the times in which it was built; the defences

were lofty earthen ramparts, with wide moats on the outer sides, and advantage was taken of a small river, the Talma, to form a deep fosse under the embankment, between the middle and outer cities. In some places the earthen defences were faced with brick, and surmounted by brick walls; the Rajah's house had also a wall around it. The only remains left are portions of the ramparts and heaps of bricks in various places.

This Prithu Rajah met a tragical fate.

He was attacked by a tribe of Kichoks, or impure feeding gipsies, and afraid of having his purity sullied by contact with them, he jumped into the large tank near his palace, whither he was followed by his guards, and the town was given up to plunder. His spirit was supposed to occupy the place, and when Buchanan visited it a flag was hoisted on the ground between the tank and the palace, which was overgrown with trees and bushes, to indicate that the spot was holy, and the natives bowed down low and called on the Maharaj Prithu by name.

II.—The Pal Rajahs.

The next dynasty is that of the Pals, of which we have notices of four kings, Dharma Pal being the first. There seems reason to suppose that he was descended from, or connected with, the Pal princes, who preceded the Vidya dynasty in Bengal, and reigned in parts of Dinagepore and Bograh. One of this family was reigning in Kamrup, Assam, A.D. 1175. (See Westmacott's Dinagepore, Calcutta Review, p. 110.) A few miles south of Dimla are the remains of a fortified city, which retains the name of Dharma Pal. It is in the form of an irregular parallelogram, rather less than a mile from north to south, and three quarters of a mile from east to west in the centre, diminishing towards the north, and increasing in breadth towards its southern extremity. It consisted of an inner and an outer city, with raised ramparts of earth and ditches on the outer sides.

Dharma Pal's domain must have been extensive, and have included the greater part, if not the whole, of Rungpore; for there were in Buchanan's time traditions of a house of his successor, Gopi Chandra, at Oyari, east of Olipur, near the Brahmaputra, and there are still the remains of the palace of Gopi's son, Bhava Chundra, at Udaypur, in pergunnah Bagdowar, far to the south.

Dharma Pal had a terrible sister-in-law, Minavati, the remains of whose fort, consisting of an inner and an outer enclosure, still exist two miles to the east of Dharma Pal's city. Her husband was dead, but she fought against her brother-in-law on behalf of her son, Gopi, and defeated his troops in a battle near the Teesta, after which Dharma Pal disappeared. It seems a peculiarity of Rungpore kings not to die or be killed, but simply to disappear. The ruins of Dharma Pal's house, distant about a mile from his city, have been adopted by the Mahommedans as sacred to a parcel of thirteen of their saints, with that easy facility with which they adapt themselves to Hindu usages in these parts, but they do not venture to live within the precincts of the city where only Hindus have their hamlets.

Gopi Chandra succeeded to the vacant guddee, but he did not govern: Minavati would not so readily part with her authority. She provided him with a hundred wives, and when he grew tired of their embraces, his mother persuaded him to dedicate his life to religion. He accordingly accepted as his spiritual instructor a Yogi, or religious mendicant, and the two are still wandering about in the forests. A poem called Sibergit, sung by Yogi bards, and recounting the lamentations of Gopi's numerous wives at his departure, was said to be popular in Kamrup at the beginning of this century: an indication that the rule of the Pals included that province as well as Rungpore.

Gopi's son, Bhava Chandra, succeeded him: he is also called Udaya Chandra; whence the name of his city Udaypur.

Babu Bipin Chandra Ray, a schoolmaster of Bagdowar, in the neighbourhood, has lately made some investigation among the ruins which are situated in well nigh impenetrable jungle. Nothing of special interest was lighted on, ruins of the palace and other buildings and tanks being the main features. The Babu, however, collected some traditions of the place, from which I cull a few details.

Rajah Bhava Chandra and his mantri, or minister, are the heroes of the Hindu nursery version of the wise men of Gotham, and are renowned far and wide throughout Bengal. The Rajah and his minister were bereft of their common sense by the curse of the Rajah's favourite Debi, whom he offended by visiting her temple at a forbidden time. They did nothing like other people, slept by day, and were wide awake at night. The mantri took to live in a box, and stuffed all the avenues of communication with the outer world, such as eyes, nose, ears, with wool, and he emerged from his retreat and opened out his faculties only when called on by the Rajah to deliberate with him on some hard matter. One or two of these judgments may be noted. The Rajah and his minister, in the plenitude of their wisdom, sentenced the potters to compensate merchants for loss by wreck, on the ground that the high mounds raised by the former brought the clouds, which caused the storms. On another occasion the people brought a fine wild hog to them, that they might decide what strange animal it was; and after deep cogitation on the knotty point, they concluded that it must either be an overgrown rat, or else an elephant gone into a consumption.

But their last judgment gives the climax to their fame. Two travellers were discovered one afternoon digging a cooking place in the ground beside the tank for the preparation of their evening meal. The Rajah who had found them—he having risen very early—at once concluded that the men were engaged in effecting a burglarious entry (sind kata), in order to steal the tank, and he sentenced them to be impaled as robbers. The poor travellers, driven to desperation, made each of them seemingly frantic endeavours to be impaled on the taller of the two impaling poles: and when the Rajah enquired the reason of this unseemly altercation, they informed him that they had learned, by the power of their enchantments, that whoever was impaled on the taller pole would in the next birth become the sovereign of the whole earth, while the other would be his minister; and they were each urgent in their entrea-

ties to be allowed to attain to the higher post. Bhava Chandra, however, thought it would be far from consistent with justice that such low ruffians should acquire such supreme dignity, and had himself forthwith impaled on the coveted pole, and his faithful mantri followed his master and expired on the shorter one.

Some coins were found in Pyrabund, in the eighteenth century, in the time of Ramnath, Rajah of Dinagepore, (Pyrabund at that time was included in Dinagepore); and an old man told Buchanan that he had seen on one of them the name of Rajah Bhava Chandra, and on the obverse that of Vageshvari, his household goddess.

Bhava Chandra's successor, Pala, was the last of the line. A state of anarchy followed. Kamrup was overrun by rude tribes, the Koch, Mech, Garo, Bhot, Lepcha (who now inhabit Sikkim), and others.

III.—The Komatapur Rajahs.

The next dynasty had three Rajahs, Niladhvaj, Chakradhvaj, and Nilamba. The first Rajah founded Komatapur, the ruins of which lie in Cooch Behar territory, on the eastern bank of the Durlah river. They have been fully described by Buchanan, and their present state was, I believe, noted during the late survey of Cooch Behar. The city was very extensive: Buchanan found it to be nineteen miles in circumference, five of which were defended by the Durlah, and the rest by a rampart and ditch. These old cities all present the same features; enclosure within enclosure, wall within wall, the King's palace occupying the centre of the whole. The plan of Pekin, given in Yule's Marco Polo (p. 332), where the Emperor's palace is the innermost of three walled cities, has a remarkable correspondence with our Rungpore cities, and especially with that of Prithu Rajah.

The third king of this dynasty, Nilamba, attained to great power. His dominions included the greater part of Kamrup, the whole of Rungpore, as far as Ghoraghat to the south, where he built a fort, and part also of Matsya or Bengal. The struggles of the Affghan kings of Bengal, to retain their independence of the Delhi emperors, must have afforded opportunity to this energetic prince to extend his dominions in that direction. He laid out a magnificent road from Komatapur to Ghoraghat, much of which is still in good preservation, and forms part of the main road between Cooch Behar, Rungpore, and Bograh; and several isolated forts, scattered over the district, are called by Nilamba's name.

Nilamba's fall is attributed to the vengeance of his prime minister, a Brahmin, named Sochi Patra, whose son he had killed for some misconduct, dressed up his flesh for food, and caused the father in ignorance to eat of it. The Brahmin went to the court at Gour and procured the invasion of Rungpore by the Mahommedans, which is their first appearance in this direction. The city of Komatapur stood a long siege, and was at length taken by stratagem. The Mahommedan commander gave out that he despaired of taking the place and proposed a peace, and he asked and obtained permission for Mahommedan ladies to go and pay their respects to the Hindu queen; but in the litters were

armed men who took the town. Nilamba was taken prisoner, and put into an iron cage to be carried to Gour; but he escaped by the way, and has ever since remained concealed. The people of Kamrup, says Buchanan, look for his restoration when the usurpers, Bhooteas, Assamese, Koch, and Yavans (western barbarians), will be driven out of the land.

The Affghan king, who made this conquest, is supposed to be Hossein Shah, who reigned A. D. 1497-1521. There is an account of a disastrous expedition made by him into Assam, which probably slackened the hold of the Mahommedans on the whole of the country they had occupied in Rungpore; for we subsequently find the limits of their possessions northward to be an irregular line, drawn from the Kurutiya on the west, crossing the Ghaghat and Teesta midway, and extending to the Brahmaputra on the east, and including Pyrabund and other pergunnahs that were comprised in Sarkar Ghoraghat. The succeeding Rungpore dynasty, the Koch, built a line of fortifications all along this boundary, many parts of which are still in excellent preservation.

The possessions of the Moslems south of the boundary were consolidated in the time of Hossein's successor, Nusrut Shah, by Ismail Gazi, the Governor of Ghoraghat, who is famed for having made converts of the zemindars to Mahommedanism by the usual argument—that of force. He forbade them to sleep on *khats*, or rope beds; so they took to *taktaposhes*, or planked ones. At Buri Durga, nineteen miles south from Rungpore, on the road to Bograh, is an old building of very rude construction, which is said to have been erected over the staff of the saint, and offerings are made on the Burrobilla lake or marsh adjoining to his spirit, at a place where a flag pointed out that some of his relics were deposited.

Among the old letters I found a paper giving a short account of the city of Gour, and reciting inscriptions on buildings of the time of Hossein Shah and Nusrut Shah. In Appendix A (No. 26) this account is copied, as the original is old and worn, and may easily become lost, mutilated, or defaced.

IV.—The Koch or Cooch Behar Dynasty.

Among the wild tribes that had overrun Assam and driven back the Affghan Hossein Shah, the Koch came to the front, and, united under Hajo, founded the Cooch Behar dynasty, which exists to the present day. Hajo had two daughters, Hira, who married a Mech, had a son, Visu or Bissoo; and Jira, the other sister, had a son, Sisu or Sissoo. Visu is reckoned as the first of the Cooch Behar Rajahs, and Sisu is the ancestor of the Bykuntpore family, otherwise the Julpigoree Rajahs, who obtained Bykuntpore as an appendage of Cooch Behar.

A.D. 1509 (916 Bengal era) is given as the date of the commencement of Visu's reign; but his son Sukladage was reigning in Assam when Fytch travelled in India, 1583-91, (Genealogical Table, Cooch Behar Records, Vol. II., J. C. Haughton), and the fall of the preceding dynasty did not take place before the close of the preceding century at the earliest computation, for Hossein Shah began to reign in 1497;

so that the date 1509 is probably that of the rise to power of Hajo, the grandfather of Visu, and the real founder of the family.

Visu introduced Baidiks from Sylhet, and by their help his Mech father was thrown aside and a divine origin was manufactured for both im and his cousin Sisu, and their descendants adopted the title of Narayan Deo. The Koch also give up their name and took that of Rajbanshi, the royal race. The race speedily became effete, and offered easy prey to the Moguls when they had leisure to turn their attention this quarter.

Visu divided his realm among his two sons, giving to Sukladage al east of the Sunkosh and both sides of the Brahmaputra, and to Nr Narayan the western portion, lying between the Sunkosh and the Mananuddee rivers. Division brought weakness in its train, and Parikshit, th grandson of Sukladage, became tributary to the Dacca Soubah; and in 1603, twenty-seven years after Bengal had been wrested from the Afghans by Akbar's generals, the Mahommedans conquered and annexed arikshit's dominions for arrears of tribute: Parikshit retained a small bject state, and his brother Ballit was confirmed in the Government Durrung. The rest of the country was divided by the conquerors into r Sarkars, which they retained for over half a century; but in 1662, the reign of Aurungzebe, Meer Jumla met an overthrow in attempt- g to penetrate further east into Assam, and he had to cede much of e land previously occupied. The Moslems retained one Sarkar, engal bhoom, comprising Baharbund and Bhiturbund, and por- ons of two others, Gowalbari in that of Dhenkiri or Uttarkul orth bank of Brahmaputra), and Gowalpara and Rangamatty in at of Dukhinkul (south bank). A Mahommedan officer was sta- oned at Rangamatty, whose duty it was to encourage the growth of rests and reeds that the fierce Assamese might not penetrate further st and south. The reduced realm held by Parikshit's descendants known in our records of the close of last century as the state of ijnee, tributary both to the English as successors of the Mahommedans nd to the Bhooteas, who about this time (seventeenth century) began encroaching all along the country south of their hills; while Ballit's descendants still held, under the Assam Government, Durrung; to which had been added Kamrup, as we shall find in our notes on Assam further on.

As regards the western division of Visu's dominions, the line o fortifications, erected all along the southern border over against the Mahommedan possession, has been already referred to; they consis of lofty earthen ramparts, with wide moats on the outer sides. I con- sider they must have been erected soon after the division of the king- dom, probably during the time of Nar Narayan or his successor The eastern extremity was turned, when pergunnah Baharbund an the rest of the dominions of Parikshit were taken possession of; and in like manner, at some time preceding the final conquest of Rungpore the Mahommedans turned the western extremity and took pergunnah Coondy, lying north of Pyrabund, between the Ghaghat on the eas and Sorooppore on the west. From some accounts, which will com

under notice later, it would appear that Coondy was, in the eleventh year of Aurungzebe, in A.D. 1669, included in the zemindaree of Ghoraghat, and it was most probably conquered in the early part of that century at the same time as Baharbund. When the English became masters of the country, Coondy was in Sarkar Bazuhahi. Rennel's Map of 1779 wrongly locates Bazuhahi, *i.e.* Coondy. It should b placed due west from Rungpore, north of the rampart, between th Ghaghat and Soroopporе.

The account of the occupation of the rest of Rungpore will , given in the next part, as it is closely connected with the administration.

PART III.—ADMINISTRATION, A.D. 1687-1793.

I.—The Mahommedan Conquest and Settlements.

Rungpore Proper, otherwise Coochwara or Sarkar Cooch Beha is that portion of the old province of Rungpore which was la conquered by the Mahommedans from the Cooch Behar Rajahs. included six chaklas or divisions; the three smaller ones, those of Bo Patgram, and Purubbhag, from the zemindary of the Cooch Beh Rajah; the other three, to wit, Futtehpore, Kankina, and Cazeerh are, with the exception of Kankina which is undivided, parcelled o among a number of zemindars.

In Appendix A (No. 2) are given at some length extracts from a old suit, the first recorded in our books, decided by Charles Purlis Collector, in June 1778, as it contains much fragmentary informati relating to the Mogul incursion. From this account the following na rative is mainly derived:—In the Bengal year 1094, A.D. 1687, in t reign of Aurungzebe, the Moguls, under the leadership of Ebadatkha advanced from Ghoraghat, the head-quarters of a Soubah, and occupi the three central chaklas of Futtehpore, Cazeerhat, and Kankin The name of the market-place, Mogulhat, in chakla Kankina, on the road to Cooch Behar, situated on the west bank of the Durlah—here the boundary between Rungpore and Cooch Behar—marks the limits of the encroachments of the invaders in that direction. Ten miles on the Rungpore side of Mogulhat the road passes through a "Gurh," a three-sided fort with rampart; two sides rectangular, the third an irregular curve. It is probably the site of the centre of a fortified camp, though local tradition ascribes it, as it does all remains of any magnitude in the district, to the agency of the Hindu hero, Bhim.

The three above-mentioned chaklas seem to have been conquered without much difficulty; they consisted of open country, fairly populated, and offering no natural obstacles. The main current of the Teesta did not then divide Kankina from Cazeerhat and Futtehpore, but ran south-west, separating Boda from the rest of Coochwara. The other chaklas, Boda beyond the Teesta to the north-west, Patgram to the extreme north-east, and Purubbhag beyond the Panga jungles and across the river Durlah to the east, offered desperate

resistance. Foujdar after foujdar was appointed to Rungpore in quick succession; the struggle lasted for twenty-four years, and towards the close became a three-cornered fight. Jag Deo and Bog, or Phoje Deo of the Bykuntpore family, invaded Cooch Behar on the death of Rajah Mohindra Narayan; they laid waste the country where the fighting was going on, and kept the Mahommedans at bay: but Shanta Narayan, a cousin of the new Rajah, Rup Narayan, assisted by Pathan generals, who were subsequently killed in battle, drove out the Royeuts, as the Bykuntpore line were called, and forced the Mahommedans to a peace in 1118 B.S., A.D. 1711. The three chaklas were nominally ceded, but were still held in farm by Shanta Narayan on behalf of the Cooch Behar Rajah.

The plaintiffs in the suit in question were descendants from the servants of the Cooch Behar state, who had acted as gomastahs, patwaries, and in other similar offices, (the Mahommedan claimant's ancestor had been a pyke,) and they were appointed by the Mogul foujdars as zemindars or chowdhries of the tracts while the struggle was going on: but they do not seem to have ever obtained more than nominal possession of their zemindaries, and the peace with Cooch Behar ousted them completely.

The fact, that though the Moguls forced the cession, they never wrested the chaklas out of the hands of the Cooch Behar Rajah, accounts for the irregular nature of the boundary which exists between them and Cooch Behar Proper. A long, narrow slip of Cooch Behar territory extends from the north of Patgram, crossing the present Teesta, and divides Cazeerhat from Boda; this would, no doubt, have been included in the ceded tract, if the boundary had ever been regularly laid down: and in Patgram the very fields are intermixed, one forming part of the chakla, the next belonging to Cooch Behar, to the great confusion of present administration.

In the larger chaklas first occupied, the conquerors seem to have pursued the same policy of leaving in possession, as chowdhries, the persons who had been in charge of the collections under Cooch Behar, and no change, as far as is known, occurred up to the time of the acquisition of the Dewanny by the East India Company in 1765. Cazeerhat was then divided among five sharers—one, the only Mahommedan zemindar among the lot, held 4½ annas of the chakla; and another, who held the two annas share, the Tooshvanda zemindary, was descended (by adoption) from one Murari Bhattacharjya, who had migrated into Cooch Behar from Jaynagar, south of Calcutta, in 1634, fifty years before the conquest, and obtained an Uponchakee talook from the Cooch Behar Rajah, and his son, on the conquest, got the zemindary from the Mahommedans. Futtehpore had four sharers, but with three separated estates in addition; among them the pergunnah of Panga, the jungles of which have been referred to and continue to the present day, is held by a family related to the Rajah of Cooch Behar. Local tradition asserts that at the time the Moguls invaded the country, the dewan who had governed Rungpore under Cooch Behar fled to the jungles, and there formed the estate of Panga.

The Mahommedans appear to have at first called their new conquest Fakhar Coondy, from the name of the pergunnah which confronted them across the Ghaghat, opposite Coondy, which they already held and where the town Mahigunge now stands. They probably made here their first entry: an old Hindu temple was destroyed, and the suburb of Nawabgunge founded on or near its site. The new possessions, when consolidated, became Sarkar Cooch Behar; the names of the chaklan Futtehpore (the city of victory) and Cazeerhat (the market-place of the Cazee), were evidently bestowed by the conquerors.

Information of the earliest settlements of Coochwara are derived from a report of the Canoongo, given to Mr. McDowall, Collector, in October 1787, (Appendix A, No. 3). The Moslems always farmed the district; the zemindars never paid their revenue direct to the Government. The first year's settlement, of which we have any note, was that of 1147 B.S. (1740-41 A.D.), which amounted to Rs. 3,36,000, it continued much the same with slight increase for twenty years. But the farmers must have collected much more than this sum; for, in 1168 B.S., we find a Hindu dewan, Subak Chand, taking the farm for Rs. 11,48,986, though he was not able to collect more than Rs. 7,91,000.

This is the highest nominal rate at which the revenue of this tract has ever stood. For the year 1171 B.S. (1764-65 A.D.), that preceding the commencement of the English management of the revenues, the demand was Rs. 5,09,182; the collections were Rs. 4,87,882.

II.—Early English Settlements and the first Collectors, A.D. 1765-8.

A table given in Appendix A (No. 4) shows the demand and collections for twenty-five years, 1169-1193 B.S. (1762-87 A.D.). In these accounts, besides what is properly Coochwara, are included the revenues of pergunnah Coondy, from 1172 B.S. (date of acquisition of the Dewanny), and those of pergunnah Bykuntpore, from 1179 B.S.

Under the Mahommedans Coondy appertained to Sarkar Bazuhahi. Bykuntpore, otherwise Battishazari, was never subject to the Moguls; it lies to the north, beyond Boda and Patgram, and at the time of our occupation of the country it had Bhootan on its east and Nepaul on the west. In A.D. 1772, when the Cooch Behar Rajah sought the protection of the Company from the hostility of the Bhooteas, who had been treacherously incited to the attack by the Bykuntpore Rajah, the former engaged to pay tribute as a feudatory state, but the smaller vassal of Bykuntpore had to take his lot with the other zemindars of the district.

To recur to the accounts, the most noticeable feature in the list is the large demand for 1178 B.S., Rs. 11,01,742, which nearly reached that of 1171 B.S., during the Mahommedan period; while the realized collections, Rs. 9,14,615, were the highest ever made in the district. John Gross, the first Collector of Rungpore, of whom there is any trace, made this settlement. The particulars regarding it, extracted from our Canoongo's report, (Appendix A., No. 3,) show the very casual way in which the first settlements were formed. While two items, under the

similar names of *Feraree* and *Palatacka*, aggregating over a lac of rupees, were added to the demand to make up for deficient resources caused by the desertion of ryots, and a counter-deduction of nearly half a lac was allowed, probably in anticipation of fresh desertions: a tax of over two lacs of rupees was put on, under the name of durreevilla, the nature of which does not clearly appear, unless it was a gross sum added in order to bring up the demand to an arbitrary standard. To cap all there is a lump sum of Rs. 81,960, under the denomination of *andazee beshi*, or probable increase. In the following year's settlement, this last item, those for desertions of ryots, and one of a quarter of a lac for suspension of measurement, was taken out of the demand, which stood at Rs. 8,92,425; but of the amount paid, two lacs were only in paper—that is, bills on shroffs or native bankers, which finally resulted in a balance of Rs. 2,71,008 for the year 1180 B.S. Charles Purling succeeded Gross as collector, but both before and subsequent to 1178 B.S., the settlements appear to have been made by the Committees of Circuit.

Our regular records commence only with A.D. 1777, when Purling, who had left four years before, was a second time appointed Collector. A copy of his original appointment letter, which is extant, containing autographs of Hastings, Clavering, Barwell, and Francis, is given in Appendix A (No. 6). In 1184 B.S. (1777-78 A.D.), the zemindars were, for the first time, admitted to possession of their lands. Hitherto these had been let in farm, and the zemindars had received a maintenance allowance of 10 per cent. on the revenues. An incidental notice of a five years' farm, from 1179 to 1183 B.S., appears in the books; this fills up the interval between Gross's settlement and that of the year 1184, which Purling made.

The Shroffs.—When the Collector set to work, carrying out the settlement with the zemindars, a curious custom obtruded itself into notice. The farmers being unable to pay punctually into the treasury the stipulated instalments, owing to their being obliged to allow the ryots a longer time for the settlement of their rents than the Government would grant to them, a custom had grown up, which the oldest revenue officers in Rungpore declared had existed before their time, of paying in pants or bills of shroffs, at 15 or 20 days' date. When these pants became due, sealed bags were deposited by the shroffs in the treasury, said to contain the amount of the pants in old narainy or kazana shi rupees, coined at the Cooch Behar mint, and current in that state, Bhootan, Assam, and Rungpore. At uncertain periods these bags were taken back, unopened, in exchange for their value in French arcot rupees, the commercial currency. Mr. Purling states in his report on this subject that the shroffs were averse to the opening and inspecting of the bags, declaring it to be contrary to the established custom of the country and destructive of their credit. There were found in the treasury pants and bags representing three lacs of rupees, of the revenues of 1183 B.S.; the two lacs and three quarters which we have seen at the close of 1180 B.S. having increased to that amount.

The Government at once set its face against the continuance of this custom, which caused the whole of the revenues to pass through the hands of the shroffs, and towards the close of 1185 B.S. pants were completely abolished. There still remained the difficulty of realizing the large amount due from the bankers. On enquiry some were found to be dead, others bankrupt, and the sudden collapse of their business brought the rest into the latter category. The bags were at length, after long and fond delay, opened, and a few, of which we have the particulars, gave the following result:—

French arcot rupees	...	...	890	0
Old narainy ditto	...	...	1,048	8
New narainy ditto	...	...	1,453	8
Copper and base coins	...	...	2,598	8
Lead ...	...	..	17,511	0
Deficient in tale ...	...	...	1,928	8
Total Rs.		...	25.430	0

Of the rest of these sealed bags there are no detailed results; but Richard Goodlad, Collector in 1872, reports that when they came to be opened, 19 in 20 of the coins were of a spurious metal of Tooth-anagur (?), copper, brass, tin, &c., which the shroffs said they could sell at the foot of the hills at a discount of 80 per cent.; but Mr. Bogle, (Collector, 1779-81), not deeming it right to suffer so base a coin to be issued, in order to prevent their circulation, melted them down into large lumps. Such of the lumps as seemed to have any silver in them were sent to the mint, and produced Rs 2,500, which, with the few good rupees that were found in the bags, amounted in all to a sum of Rs. 9,824. This result for bags, which, according to an account, should have held Rs. 1,71,832, shows that the shroffs had good reason to be averse to the opening of them: some small amount seems to have been obtained by confinement of the defaulters and the sale of their property, but a total loss of about or over two lacs of rupees appears to have been the final result.—(24-9-77) (25-3-79) (19-5-80) (30-4-82).

The Nacauds.—Another matter which it fell to Mr. Purling's lot to settle, was the relation between the Nacauds, or silk-winders, of the Company's factory at Rungpore and their zemindars. Previous to the year 1769, the silk-winders had been inconsiderable in number, and the zemindars "used to flog them, as they did their other ryots," to enforce the payment of their rents; but they soon availed themselves of their position as workers for the Company, and by threats of desertion from the factory, to relieve themselves from all coercive measures on the part of the zemindars; and they established an exemption on their part from the payment of all cesses, over and above the ground rent or tukseem jumma of their lands, which amounted to about one-half of the aggregate rent paid by other ryots. Naturally the evil increased. The making of Nacauds become a trade with the sardars of the factory. If one member of a family walked daily to the

factory, whether he worked or not, the whole of the members of the family claimed the abatement of half their rent in consequence. Mr. Purling instanced three or four suits which had been brought in his court against the sardars, for not performing agreements to enter children as weavers on the factory books, for which they had received consideration. Brahmins, patwarries, paramaniks, and the peons and pykes of the factory, all availed themselves of this easy means to evade payment of their just debts. The loss fell principally on one of the Coondy zemindars. In one village where there were 308 houses, and there had been 17 Nacauds, the whole of the 308 had become houses of Nacauds. At length he cried out loud enough to be heard. Purling, in reporting the matter at length to Government, remarked that the Nacauds did not frequent the factory for what they earned, for a good workman could not earn half a rupee a month, and argued forcibly that the weaving should be conducted on a sounder basis. Warren Hastings, in a holograph letter (see sec. 72), asked the Collector to suspend the matter until the Board should meet, who were then occupied with the despatch of a mail to England; and the Board at their meeting decided that the Nacauds would not in future be entitled to any exemption different from other ryots. I presume the wages in the Company's silk factory had to be raised.—(18-4-78).

Bykuntpore, 1779.—An episode of the settlement of 1186, B.S., the fictitious rebellion of Bykuntpore, shows the untrustworthy character of the agents, sezawals, and others, with whom the Collectors had to work. When Bykuntpore was annexed, the zemindar paid an annual tribute of Rs. 10,000; but after an inquiry was made into the resources of the country in 1774, the revenue payable was increased to Rs. 25,000, with a further increase for the following year of Rs. 5,000, bringing it up in all to Rs. 30,000. This was maintained in spite of the Rajah's energetic remonstrances; balances accrued in the demand for 1184, 1185, 1186, B. S., and a sezawal was appointed in August or September 1779 to collect the revenues from the country direct. No sooner had this Kinkar Kishor Das gone to the spot, than he sends back a flaming and circumstantial account that the zemindar had employed dacoits to murder him. He himself prudently retired with two 'kidmatgars' to Maria, in pergunnah Boda, where an old Prussian sergeant, retired from the Company's army, was residing; but his people were attacked, one burkundaz was murdered, others were wounded, and some thrown into the river. The Collector took vigorous measures; sent a guard of 25 sepoys to protect the sezawal, and issued a proclamation, threatening the zemindar that if he did not deliver himself up within fifteen days, he would be for ever excluded from the possession of his land, which should be made over to his brother. The Rajah was caught without any difficulty, and brought to Rungpore, and two ameens were sent out, one from the Collector and the other from the Foujdar, to enquire into one matter. Then the tables were turned. The ameens reported that the sezawal himself had sent dacoits into Bykuntpore, who had plundered the country. The zemindar was released, and the sezawal was made over to the Foujdar for trial. The final upshot, or whether the murdered man

was altogether a myth, does not transpire. (10-9-79), (12-10-79), (22-12-79).

III.—Settlements of 1188-1193 *B.S., and the Insurrection of* 1783 *A.D.*

The administration of the district, after the introduction of the zemindars to engage for their lands, cannot be called successful. The collections of 1184, 1185, 1186, 1187, B. S., decreased from year to year. Several circumstances contributed to this result. The abolition of the shroffs, though no doubt necessary, had two effects, both disadvantageous to the ryots. The zemindars, no longer enabled by means of fictitious payments in pants and sealed bags to get extra time for the instalments, pressed the ryots for rent in their turn, who were thus compelled to dispose of their crops on unfavorable terms. A second result was, that the narainy rupee suddenly lost currency. The shroffs had been in the habit of selling those rupees they received from the treasury at a value nearly equal to sicca rupees; but they fell now in a short time to a discount of 15 to 20 per cent., to the great loss of all who held them, and the ryots had to pay this discount in addition to their rents.

The Zemindars.—But the main cause of all the difficulties that beset the paths of the first Collectors was the incapacity of the zemindars and the venality of their gomastahs. Mr. Goodlad writes thus to the Committee of Revenue in 1781 :—"A short time before the abolition of the shroffs, Rungpore was given in charge to the zemindar; a system however human (sic.) and salutary it may prove in other places, is to Rungpore the most destructive, both to district and zemindars, that could possibly be devised. I will enumerate the various objections to a zemindary settlement in Rungpore. The first that occurs, is the entire ignorance of the zemindars, either as to their own interest, or the nature of their business; this arises from their never having had charge till the Bengal year, 1184. This has given them an indifference to their zemindaries, which lays them open to the hands of their gomastahs and servants, who, as long as they supply them with money for their expenses, are left without control. The next circumstance is, their total want of property and credit. The consequences attending this are very evident. In the first place, the zemindars from the want of property cannot assist the indigent ryots at the beginning of the year to enable them to cultivate their lands. The want of credit will not suffer them to come forward on behalf of their ryots to give them time to dispose of their produce to advantage."—(31-3-81).

Mr. McDowall echoes the same cry five years later. He says:—"The zemindars of this district, either from sex, age, or long habitual indolence, are never known to interfere in public business, and are in such a state of dependence on their gomastahs, that I have known a zemindar day after day attend the durbar of his gomastah, thereby reversing the distinction of their respective ranks in life. It is true that the zemindars have the power of dismissing their gomastahs, but this power is rarely made use of otherwise than as a means of exacting money, either from the party in possession of the office, or from the person who is striving to supplant him; and the amount of this

exaction falls ultimately upon the ryots."—(24-4-86.) The class of zemindars is not even now extinct, who will be thankful for a bribe from their agents taken out of their own treasury.

The zemindar of Panga is described as an obstinate and perverse old man, upwards of sixty years of age, who was bringing up his son to be like himself. When sent for, he would betake himself to the woods with which his house was surrounded; and when, in 1788, the Collector visited the pergunnah, he found that the zemindar had forbidden the cultivation of many lands from fear that the revenue assessment might be raised. The one Mahommedan sharer in Cazeerhat was reported on by Mr. Lumsden in 1791, as not so decidedly an idiot as to necessitate that the management of his zemindary should be taken from him.

The Insurrection.—The districts of Rungpore, Dinagepore, and Edrakpore, were given in Calcutta in farm for the years 1188-89 B.S. (1781-83 A.D.), at an increased revenue, to a Mahommedan. The Dewan of Dinagepore, Rajah Devi Singh, of whose atrocities Burke gives such a glowing account, became surety, and in the end himself appears as the real farmer. From bad management large balances accrued in 1188 B.S., and in the following year the ryots, aided by the ousted zemindars and their gomastahs, forced on deductions of nearly four lacs of rupees, so that in the end there arose a balance of about six lacs; to realise which before the expiration of his lease, the farmer had recourse to every means, fair or foul, that lay in his power.

In January 1783, the ryots of chaklas Cazeerhat and Kankina, and Tepa, chakla Futtehpore, suddenly rose in rebellion, and drove out the collecting officers. Their grievances are set forth in a statement they sent to the Collector, who, on first hearing of the rising, had made an attempt to appease them. They complained of the levy of the durreevilla tax, which we have noticed in Mr. Gross's settlement of ten years before, and which now amounted to 5 annas on the rent; and, secondly, of the discount which they had to pay for the exchange of narainy rupees into French arcots, which was another 3 annas. The Collector agreed to revert to the demand of 1187 B.S., and the ryots expressed themselves satisfied, and apparently dispersed; but this adjustment did not dispose of the question of the large balances, and the malcontents soon again assembled in larger numbers than before. The revolt now extended throughout the whole of Futtehpore, and the insurgents forced the ryots of Cooch Behar to join them, and sent parties into Dinagepore to bring over the people there. They murdered at Dimla, in Cazeerhat, an under-renter, and the naib of Tepa with seven or eight of his people, and issued a proclamation that they would pay no more revenue. One of the leaders assumed the title of nawab, and another became his dewan, and a tax, called dingkhurcha or sedition tax, was levied for the expenses of the insurrection.

Matters now looked serious, and active measures were taken to put down the rising. Forces of burkundazes were sent out in various directions. To the southward 800 prisoners were taken, who, being ryots of Dinagepore, were sent back to their homes. Several engagements

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occurred in other parts. In an attempt to burn Mogulhat, the nawab's forces were defeated, his dewan was killed, and he himself was wounded and taken prisoner. A party of sepoys, under Lieutenant Macdonald, marched to the north against the principal body of insurgents. A spy caught by the Lieutenant was hung in open market, and a jemadar was despatched against the retreating enemy. The decisive battle of the campaign was fought near Patgram on the 22nd February; the sepoys disguised themselves as burkundazes by wearing white cloth over their uniform, and by that means got close to the insurgents, who were utterly defeated: sixty were left dead on the field, and many were wounded and taken prisoners. The numbers engaged are not given.

Mr. Goodlad's final report on this outbreak will be found in Appendix A, (No. 7). It is in its naive simplicity sufficient by itself to clear the Collector's character from the aspersions cast upon it by Burke in his reckless eagerness as prosecutor to catch at anything that might tell against Warren Hastings. Whatever Devi Singh's enormities may have been, nothing is clearer from the whole history of the transaction than that Mr. Goodlad knew nothing of them. The Collectors did not leave their stations. It was not until six years later that the first orders were passed for them to go on circuit in their districts; and while they remained stationary at head-quarters, they could see nothing but what their native subordinates chose to show them.

Two commissions sat on this insurrection, and in February 1789, in the time of Lord Cornwallis, the final orders of Government were passed. Devi Singh got off scot-free, with the exception of the loss of his money. Har Ram, a native of Rungpore, who had been the sub-farmer under him, and whose oppressions had brought about the rising, was sentenced to one year's imprisonment, and after that time to be banished from the districts of Rungpore and Dinagepore. Five ryots, the ring-leaders of the insurgents, were also banished; two of them, men of Dimla, had apparently been in confinement since the time of the insurrection, six years previously. Har Ram had further to give money douceurs to nine persons, gomastahs and others, on whom he had inflicted what is called corporal punishment to wit, torture; and great quantities of land of the zemindars which had been put up to sale and bought by Devi Singh and Har Ram were given back to the former owners. Among the proceedings of the decennial settlement appears a statement, to the effect that the dewan of Devi Singh, probably this same Har Ram, sent women to the house of the zemindar or chowdhranee of Tepa (a woman), who committed much violence there, until they had compelled her officers to execute the agreements for increase of rent they wanted.

The Cazeerhat ryots, mostly Hindus, always evinced a spirit of turbulence or resistance to oppression, for the terms are in many cases synonymous.

We find (Canoongo's report, Appendix A, No. 3,) that they rebelled once under the Mahomedan rule in 1169 B.S., twenty years previously, on account of the severity of the collections. They were in the habit

of going to Calcutta to make complaint if they were ill-treated in any special degree; and Mr. Goodlad, at the commencement of the present insurrection, argues that the ryots could not have much to complain of, or they would have gone off to Calcutta to obtain redress. Three years later, at the close of the year 1192 B.S., a large body of ryots again left their habitations, encamped in a body on a plain twenty miles from Rungpore, refusing to pay any more revenue, and some who had set out for Calcutta were brought back from Moorshedabad. The cause in this instance was a tax of two and a half annas which had been laid on Cazeerhat, to provide resources for the increased revenue demand which had been put on that year. One more instance of insubordination occurred two years later. The Collector ascertained that the ryots had been incited to disturbance through the intrigues of their headmen or bosneahs, who were the chief in all the risings; so he imprisoned the two leaders, and flogged one of them, which, as he reported to the Board, had a very good effect in quieting the rest. The Dimla ryots, now two-fifths of them Mahommedans, appear to have kept up the old traditions. They are even now engaged in a contest with their zemindar, (who holds an estate carved out by auction from the 4½ annas share of Cazeerhat), resisting the levy of an illegal cess, and it is said that the other ryots of the district are awaiting the result of their endeavours quite ready to follow their lead.

The loss of the large balance, which appears against 1188-89 B.S., fell principally, if not wholly, upon Rajah Devi Singh. Mr. Goodlad, in hoping that his conduct will meet the Committee's approbation, begs that they will keep this "ground point in view;" that *their revenue is secure.*—(27-1-83), (22-7-83), (19-2-86), (21-4-88).

After the collapse of the farming system in the insurrection of 1783, the settlements were again made with the zemindars: great reductions were made in the demand for 1190 B.S, and to recover the standard of 1187 B.S., became the aim in succeeding settlements. The Committee at first proposed to hold the settlement of 1191 B.S. in Calcutta, and the zemindars were directed to repair there; but a new Collector, Peter Moore, having been appointed to Rungpore, he was entrusted with the settlement. Zemindars who arrived at Calcutta were sent back to Rungpore in charge of Government peons, and a jemadar and peons were despatched to catch any that might be found loitering on the way, and to carry them safely back. A copy of Mr. Moore's proceedings in forming the settlement will be found in Appendix A (No. 8), as a sample of the manner of work of those days. A moderate increase of the revenue was obtained, but in the following year (1192 B.S.) a large addition was put on, making the demand from Cazeerhat higher even than Devi Singh had assessed it. This nearly caused, as we have seen, another rebellion, but notwithstanding it was collected without much balance. A deduction was made in the settlement of 1193 B.S., but still the revenue for Cazeerhat was higher than it had stood in 1187 B.S.

The revenue demand from Coochwara for 1193 B.S. (1786-87 A.D.) was Rs. 7,39,244, which was realised without a balance.

IV.—Settlements of 1194-96 *B.S., and the Floods and Famine of* 1787 *A.D.*

1194 B.S. was a disastrous year. The rains commenced in March (1787A.D.), nearly three months before their usual time, and continued until the middle of July, during which period the rivers three times overflowed their banks and inundated the whole country. Mr. McDowall reports in July that "the ryots have, in almost every part of the district, been obliged to raise platforms to preserve the lives of themselves and their families; while others, from previous indolence, or from not having had time to make their escape to places of safety, have been overwhelmed by the sudden torrents caused by the breaking in of the rivers." The spring crops, the principal one that of tobacco, were almost wholly destroyed. A break in the rains took place in July, and as the waters subsided, the ryots attempted to carry on the autumn cultivation; but the rains again returned early in August, the country was again flooded, and even in the station of Rungpore the people had to raise platforms within their houses, and the Collector had great difficulty in getting his ministerial officers to attend cutcherry for carrying on the public business. Towards the end of the month of August, the Teesta river, which had flowed south-west into the Dinagepore district, finding its way to the Ganges, met with some obstruction in its course, and turned its mass of water into a small branch running south-east into the Brahmaputra, forcing its way among the fields and over the country in every direction, and filling the Ghagat, Manas, and other rivers to overflowing The Collector writes early in September: "Multitudes of men, women, children, and cattle, have perished in the floods, and in many places whole villages have been so completely swept away, as not to leave the smallest trace whereby to determine that the ground had been occupied."

These calamities culminated in a famine, all the crops had been destroyed, and there could be no communication with other districts except by water. Rice, which had been extraordinarily cheap, selling at three to four maunds per rupee, daily rose in price. The Collector did all that lay in his power to keep down the rapidly rising rate. When in June rice sold at only one maund a rupee, and by a combination of the merchants it was for a few days sold at 30 seers a rupee, he, as he reports to the Board, threatened by public advertisement to open the merchants' golahs and expose them to plunder, and thereby caused the combination to cease. But in spite of all he could do, the price nevertheless rose, till in September rice was selling in Rungpore at 23 to 25 seers a rupee, and in some parts of the district at only 18 seers a rupee. Mr. McDowall also stopped all exportation from the district; but this embargo was taken off by order of the Board.

Numbers of people escaped the flood only to die of starvation. In a letter of May 1788 (given in the Appendix), the Collector states that he had frequently, on enquiry, "found that out of a large family, who at the beginning of the season possessed numbers of cattle, many ploughs, and abundance of grain; only one miserable and emaciated wretch had remained to tell the fate of his friends." A petition of the

zemindars paints the following picture:—"Many ryots either died or deserted, and numbers of those who remained in the district, being unable to procure a livelihood, betook themselves to the commission of thefts and robberies, plundering and setting fire to houses; many frequently putting to death such ryots as had reserved a quantity of grain for seed or for their subsistence. Others were reduced to the necessity of bartering their wives and children for a few seers of rice; whilst some, still more unfortunate, were compelled to leave their offspring on the highways, where they were devoured by jackals. Being at last reduced to the utmost want, vast numbers of them came as beggars to Rungpore for support; but many were so reduced by famine, that they died on the road, and numbers are still, by the bounty of the Company, taken care of and supplied with food." The Collector hastens to note on the margin, under date of May 1788 (for these proceedings went to the Board), that "the Company's expense on this account ceased many months ago." From 5,000 to 6,000 people were fed at Rungpore, at first from private funds, and then at the Company's expense. The quantity of rice used on Government account for this purpose was 1,330 maunds, purchased at prices varying from 22 to 25 seers per rupee, at a total cost of Rs. 2,053. This quantity, at the allowance proposed to be given, of one-third of a seer per each person per day, would feed 5,320 people for one month, so that private charity must have borne a far greater share in the work of feeding the starving than the bounty of the Company.

Calamity followed calamity during this terrible year. A cyclone swept over the stricken country. On the morning of the 2nd November, about 4 o'clock, the wind began to blow from the north-east with great violence, attended by a very heavy fall of rain, which continued gradually to increase until about 3 o'clock in the afternoon, when changing suddenly to the east, there came a most furious hurricane, that lasted with different degrees of violence for the space of ten hours. Trees were torn up by the roots, the residents' bungalows were almost all unroofed, and there was scarcely a thatched house left standing in the place. Of the six thousand poor people that were at that time daily supplied with rice, forty died near the Collector's house. It was estimated that Rungpore during this single year lost one-sixth part of its inhabitants. In pergunnah Panga alone, half of the whole had gone.

Not among the least of the difficulties by which Mr. McDowall's path was beset, was the harassing and unsympathetic treatment he received from his superiors, in lieu of the support he so much needed. They could not, and would not, understand the necessity for the repeated suspensions of revenue, and it needed to be dinned again and again into their ears that the district could not bear rack-renting during such a season of calamity. Not only the Board, but the Governor-General in Council bullied the unfortunate Collector; and two letters, written in justification of his proceeding, are given in Appendix A (No. 9), the latter of which gives a somewhat full account of the troubles of the year.—(25-5-87), (19-6-87), (29-7-87), (2-9-87,) (13-9-87), (18-1-89), (20-8-89).

Rungpore has always been a fertile rice-producing district. In 1781 a lac of maunds were delivered by Mr. Goodlad in Calcutta, at a cost of Rs. 50,000, for the relief of Madras; the quality, however, was disapproved of, and the investment was thrown over on to the Collector's hands. The cheapness of grain was a fertile excuse with the zemindars, for failure in the punctual payment of their revenue; and the low price of produce is even given as one of the causes of the insurrection of 1783. Here, therefore, the famine prices were the more severely felt. From a comparative statement of the price of grain during several years (see Appendix A, No. 19), taken from Mr. McDowall's returns, it might appear that, in remarking in June on the rise of price from three to four maunds per rupee to one maund or 30 seers only, he had in the first instance quoted the price of paddy, and in the latter that of husked rice; for, according to the table, the price of husked rice does not appear to have ever been cheaper than two maunds twenty-four seers for the rupee. But the particularity of the statement altogether forbids the supposition that there canbe any such egregious mistake; and the explanation, no doubt, is that the prices quoted in the table are those of the Rungpore bazar retail rates, while in the country markets at first hand, the prices would naturally be more favorable for the buyers. The rate of three to four maunds per rupee is also reported as the price of grain in a letter of January 1786. (Magh 1192, B.S.) So likewise our price current does not show the dearest price which was reached, which we have seen was 18 seers per rupee.

The famine rate of 1787, 18 to 25 seers per rupee, is now about our normal price, and that was doubled during the year of the Orissa famine, 1866-67.

The Teesta.—The rest of the tale regarding the change in the course of the Teesta may be conveniently told here. The new river overflowed the country for the two following seasons before it had worked a channel sufficient to hold it. There are many accounts of sudden inroads by the water, and the drowning of large numbers of persons. One instance may be noted as a sample of many. A peon had been despatched to fetch some ryots who were in arrears with their rent, the village was overwhelmed during the night, and all the houses were swept away, the peon was the only living creature that escaped, and he remained for three days on a stack of straw in the midst of the waste of waters, when he was picked up by a passing merchant boat.

At length the Government, alarmed at the constant loss of revenue, entered on a notable scheme of forcing the river back into its old course. In June 1789, they asked the Collector whether it would be worth while to spend two lacs of rupees in doing this; and he replied that it certainly would, if it could be done for the money. So an engineer, Mr. Lyon, was told to do it, and the Collectors of Dinagepore and Rungpore, Hatch and McDowall, held a conference on the borders of their respective domains, and became very busy in collecting men and materials. Three thousand *kodalees* were collected, but Mr. Lyon wanted pickaxes, which put our Collector rather about. He wrote that a pickaxe had never been seen in the district; he had therefore given a muster of one from memory,

and hoped the result might be successful. Mr. Lyon, however, brought his pickaxes with him. Twelve thousand men were collected at the place where the new river had broken in: an assistant to the Collector had put up houses for the men, and was on the spot to superintend and pay them; and timber dredgers, *kodalees*, pickaxes, and rupees, were there in abundance. But a short period of work appears to have convinced the engineer that even he could not stop the Teesta, for early in January (1790) came an order from Government to suspend the works. How much of the two lacs of rupees was unexpended, there are no accounts to show. The Teesta still flows on. The old course is still traceable in a broad sandy belt, which the road from here to Julpigoree traverses for twelve miles.—(26-6-89), (20-8-89), (2-10-89), (21-10-89), (13-1-90).

Large remissions had to be made in the revenues of 1194 B.S. They appear to have amounted to about one and three-fourth lac of rupees. During the two following years only a slight increase was obtained, as the overflowings of the Teesta were repeated in those years. The revenue for Coochwara and its allied mehals of Bykuntpore and Coondy for 1196 B.S. (1789-90 A. D), the last settlement preceding the decennial, was French Arcot Rs. 6,20,624, or Sicca Rs. 5,68,077. The other districts comprised in the province of old Rungpore, Baharbund, Edrakpore, the sicca mehals, Sorooppore and Rangamatty, will now be shortly noticed.

V.—District Baharbund, Sarkar Bengal Bhoom.

The conquest of Baharbund, with other tracts from the Kamrup Rajah Parikshit, by the Mahommedans, in the beginning of the seventeenth century, has been narrated. Baharbund came into this district in 1772, where it has since remained, with the exception of one year, 1786-87, during which it, with Edrakpore, formed the small district of Ghoraghat. It includes the pergunnahs of Baharbund and Gowalbaree or Gyebaree; the latter separated from Baharbund by Bhiturbund, and also a portion of Bhiturbund. Rennel's map wrongly includes Gyebaree within the limits of Cooch Behar. Baharbund, with Bhiturbund, had been part of the Nattore Rajah's estate; but the latter did not come into this district from Rajshahye until after the permanent settlement. From an account (see Appendix A, No. 10) sent to the Committee of Revenue by Mr. Goodlad, when Collector of Ghoraghat, it appears that Baharbund, though nominally entered in the name of the Nattore zemindar, was from time to time held as a jaghir by Mahommedans; and in 1782, Bissen Churn Nundy, probably a benami for Cantoo Babu, Hasting's banian, obtained a five year's farm of it. His successor, Lookenaut Nundy, Cantoo Babu's son, from whom the present owner, Ranee Surnomohee of Cossimbazar, Moorshedabad, is descended, is spoken of as the zemindar, thus ousting the old nominal possessors. It does not appear whether any purchase-money was paid for the property.

Lookenaut was the first of the zemindars of the district who obtained a permanent settlement which came to pass in this wise. The average collections during the five years' farm were Rs. 95,781, and at

its expiration the settlement was offered to Lookenaut at the average of the three preceding years' collections; but this he declined, and for two years, 1184-85 B.S., the estate was managed by a sezawal, who only collected Rs. 80,525 the first year, and Rs. 82,639 the second. Then Lookenaut with great astuteness came forward, and offered to take the estate at the latter rate on a permanent lease, which offer was accepted by the Governor-General in Council, in a letter of October 20th, 1779, signed by Hastings, Barwell, Francis, Wheler, and Coote. The sunnud, a translation of which I have culled from settlement proceedings of eight years later (see Appendix A, No. 11), recites Baharbund, Bhiturbund, and Gyebaree, as included in the grant.

The Directors in London were very wrath at the granting of these permanent leases to Baharbund and a few others, and sent out peremptory orders that they were to be forthwith cancelled; but nothing of the kind was done. The Baharbund zemindar was the only one in Rungpore who had a large private fortune, and he began at once that course of scientific administration which has rendered this zemindary one of the best managed in the district. During 1189 and 1190 B.S., he carried out a new measurement and assessment. This relieved the lesser ryots at the expense of the more powerful ones, who had in various well-known ways got into their possession the best land at the least rent, or none at all; and the deficiency caused by their unfair practices used to be made up by taxes, which fell most heavily on the poorer ryots. The principal men went to Calcutta to complain of the new assessment which bore on them so heavily; and the decision of the Committee is interesting, from the following delivery on the position and rights of zemindars:—

"The Committee, adverting to the nature of a zemindar's office and the deed by which he is vested with the superintendence and collection of the revenues of a zemindary, are of opinion that he does not derive a right from either of making a hustabood of a zemindary by measurement, or of changing the ancient mode or rate of collecting the revenue without the previous permission of Government." Notwithstanding this apparently adverse ruling, the zemindar in the end made good his point.

In 1862-63, the test year of Act X, when the three years' limitation began to run out, of a total of 3,133 suits for arrears of rent for the whole district, 959 appertained to this estate.

VI.—Edrakpore, Dinagepore, and the Sicca Mehals, Sarkar Ghoraghat.

Edrakpore and Dinagepore, known respectively as nine annas and seven annas Ghoraghat, were the remains of the large zemindary of that name, and the sicca mehals, five jaghir estates held at fixed rates thus denominated, were separated talooks of the same zemindary, which at the time, of which we write, comprised in its two shares the greater part of the Dinagepore district, a portion of Rungpore to the south, and nearly the whole of the present districts of Maldah and Bograh. It had a century before, in the time of Aurungzebe, included Soroop-

pore and Coondy; but the former pergunnah had now become a portion of the Nattore zemindary, and Coondy was a separate estate divided among several sharers. The city of Ghoraghat was once the seat of the eastern Mogul Government, with a circle of collection of ninety lacs of rupees, but the seat of Government was removed to Dacca in the reign of Jehanghir. We have seen that Ghoraghat was the basis whence the Rungpore chaklas were overrun at the close of the seventeenth century. The site of the city is in the Dinagepore district, as it lies in the west bank of the Kurutiya, and I am informed that extensive ruins still exist, imbedded in thick jungle. Mr. Goodlad's account of Ghoraghat, given in Appendix A (No. 12), gives a long list of fifteen successive Rajahs, who are names and nothing more; and according to the story which he cites, but doubts, it seems to me, without good reason, the division into the two shares of 9 annas and 7 annas was brought about by foul dealing. One of the zemindars, Rajah Bhagawan, being an idiot, his dewan, who held the same name, took advantage of this fact, and by judicious management obtained a grant of the zemindary from the Dacca Soubah, and a long contest which ensued resulted in the division above noted, the usurper retaining the 7 annas share, that of Dinagepore.

Dinagepore was put under general charge of the Rungpore Collector during the two years of Devi Singh's farm—1781-83, and the Collector was directed to reside occasionally at Dinagepore to be a check upon the farmer. Then Mr. McDowall was Collector for one year (1783-84) before he came to Rungpore, and after his incumbency Dinagepore was again under Rungpore for two years more, 1784-86. In May 1786, Mr. Hatch was appointed Collector, and the districts have ever since remained distinct.

The Rajah of Dinagepore, Radhanath, was a minor, and Devi Singh was appointed as the dewan of Dinagepore at a salary of Rs. 1,000. The zemindary had been let to the Rajah for life, and the Directors approved of this arrangement as an experiment. A letter of Mr. Goodlad's (see Appendix A, No. 13) is interesting, as showing how the institution of the Court of Wards was felt out; the Dinagepore estate was encumbered with debt to the amount of over a lac of rupees, more than half of which was owing to the Company; and a large number of elephants, horses, and camels, were entertained at great and useless expense. Measures were taken for selling them, and for liquidating the debt in other ways, and also for educating the young Rajah; but Mr. Westmacott's account shows how successfully the old Ranee baffled all attempts in this direction, and the consequent collapse of the estate.

Edrakpore, the 9-anna share, had been under Rungpore in 1773, when Mr. Purling was Collector: where it was subject to subsequently does not appear; but in 1781 it was again brought into this collectorate, and remained so since, with the exception of the one year, 1786-87, of the Goraghat collectorate. The revenue assessed on this zemindary fluctuated between Rs. 1,85,612 in 1178 B.S., Rs. 1,30,529 in 1181 B.S., and Rs. 1,60,196 in the time of Devi Singh, at which last amount

it continued. After the inundations of 1787, a deduction of Rs. 15,000 was allowed up to 1196 B.S. (1789-90 A.D.), but this allowance was resumed the first year of the decennial settlement. Edrakpore has now disappeared from the map. Its 69 pergunnahs were sold in lots early in the present century for arrears of revenue; only a few small portions remain to the descendants of the former Rajahs, not paying more than Rs. 2,000 to Government as revenue. The Dinagepore Rajah still retains a considerable, although much reduced, estate, paying a lac and three quarters of revenue.

The sicca mehals merit no special mention, their revenues having always remained fixed. After the decennial settlement, the most southerly, Bullehar, was transferred to Rajshahye, and portions of the others go to form the district of Bograh.

VII.—Soroopporе and Rangamatty.

Soroopporе formed part of the Nattore zemindary under Rajshahye, and lay as an Alsatia on the road between Rungpore and Dinagepore, a convenient refuge for evil-doers. It was sold at Calcutta for arrears, and purchased by Darpa Narain Thakur, and was then transferred to this district, 1787. An ameen, appointed to make a local measurement and enquiry into the resources of the pergunnah, brought in false returns, and an English commission was therefore sent from Calcutta, who made very minute enquiries, which encumber several volumes. From them Mr. Crawfurd, Assistant Magistrate, lately compiled much information relating to the state of things at the time of the permanent settlement, which he included in his agricultural returns supplied for the Gazetteer, and some extracts from the same are given as an Appendix C. The revenue assessed on Soroopporе was Sicca Rs. 45,000, increasing to Sicca Rs. 58,680.

Rangamatty included what now forms the district of Gowalpara. It was formed into a separate collectorate, and transferred from this district previous to the decennial settlement. In its collections were the tribute of two small states, Bijnee and Bidyagong, who paid their revenue in elephants. A statement of the proceeds for several years will be found in the Appendix (A No. 5). There was great mortality among the animals: out of 70 to 80 caught every year, seven or eight only arrived at Rungpore; and the tribute was afterwards changed into a cash one.

VIII.—On Sundry matters incidental to Settlement.

Collection of the revenue.—The coercive measures provided by the regulations of Government for the enforcement of the payment of revenue, were corporal punishment, confinement, and the sale of lands. Previous to the permanent settlement, the last of these was only resorted to, as a root and branch cure after other means of healing had failed. It has been seen that the sub-farmer of Rungpore had freely used corporal punishment (so called) during the time of Devi Singh's farm, and he had to compensate some individuals on whom he had inflicted certain species of this description, going by the names of cuttah, chaump,

changee, and moraud khanee. In this he had closely followed the Mahomedan traditions; for there is an account of a fouzdar, who, in 1168 B.S. (1761 A.D.), punished a recalcitrant zemindar of Tepa with the first three of the above-named tortures, until he was near expiring, and relinquishment of his zemindary was forced from him, after which he was put in irons and confined; which among the thousand and one modes of torture that have been practised in India from time immemorial these names indicate, I have not been able precisely to ascertain; but Burke specifies certain that were used, according to the evidence collected by Mr. Paterson's commission, such as tying the fingers tightly together, and forcing nails or bamboo wedges between them; hanging up by the feet, and beating the soles of the feet until the nails dropped off, &c.: and Dr. Chevers has a long chapter in his Medical Jurisprudence, narrating the different cruel punishments that history and the records of courts of justice disclose the fertile brain of the East has invented for wreaking vengeance on the victims of rage and tyranny.

There is no instance of any Collector using or countenancing the use of corporal punishment for the enforcement of the payment of the Government dues; but that zemindars were in the habit of flogging their ryots is spoken of as a well-known practice, and no special notice is taken of it. Confinement, however, was constantly used as a coercive measure. During the famine year the whole of the zemindars were in confinement at one time, and the Collector complacently reports to the Board regarding the dewan of Edrakpore (the zemindar was a female, and the dewan was held responsible for the revenue), that he had for a long time past been under restraint according to the regulations, and deprived of every convenience to render his confinement the more severe.

A custom peculiar to Rungpore, and as Collector Moore writes, by all that he could learn of the character and disposition of the zemindars, a process but too necessary, was to locate sezawals with them, in order to prevent the public revenues being embezzled, and to forward them as they arrived from the mofussil to the sudder cutcherry at Rungpore. The collections at the cutcherry were made during the night—a custom which has continued to the present day in some of the zemindaries.

The female zemindars gave the Collectors the most trouble. He could not confine them, nor could he even catch them; for when he sent for them to live at Rungpore, they ran away to Calcutta. In 1781, the zemindar of Kankina thus took her flight; the Collector wrote to the Committee in Calcutta to send her back, and they tried to apprehend her and failed. The final upshot, however, was the sale of some of her lands two years later. It is pleasant to come across a notice in Buchanan, to the effect that he found Ram Rudro of Kankina, the adopted son of this lady, among the few zemindars of the district who showed any real politeness to strangers. He calls him a very respectable old man; but if Buchanan's memory was not tripping, Ram Rudro must have aged very early in life: for it was only in 1784 that his adoptive mother introduced him to Mr. Moore to take up the settlement of the estate,

and if he was then 20, he could not have been more than 45 in 1809. Buchanan spoke of the Kankina zemindar and his neighbour of Tooshvanda, as giving encouragement to learning, which tradition is well observed by their present successors.

A very peculiar transaction crops up in 1787, anent the realization of the rents from the ryots. Dinagepore stretched east of the Kurutiya, north of Edrakpore, right into the centre of Rungpore, comprising Pyrabund, Batashun, Burrobilla, Andooah, &c., all included in our present thannahs of Molong and Pirgunge; and Mr. Hatch complained to Mr. McDowall that numbers of ryots of Andooah had 'eloped' into Rungpore, and proposed having peons on the boundary pergunnahs of each district, who could arrest such defaulters without formal application to the Collector: concerned, and he adds these pregnant words—"By this reciprocal service not merely security to the revenues will be insured, but improper emigrations be checked, and the inhabitants prevented from wandering backward and forward, to the vexation of the officers of the collections, who in all these cases are reduced to hold out false promises, and practise every species of deception to induce the ryots to settle; even pattas at a fixed rate can be of no avail, while natural inclination to delay payment is combined with so powerful an incentive to evade it altogether." Mr. McDowall objected to Mr. Hatch's plan as inconsistent with the customs of the country, and propounded in his turn a proposal of an interchange of the emigrants from both districts for some years past, and he promised on his part to send in a list of all such vagrant ryots. Whether it was his idea that the exchange should be strictly man for man, woman for woman, child for child, does not appear; the notable proposal seemingly dropped.

Under-tenures.—The power possessed or assumed by the zemindars of alienating revenue land was greatly abused. George Bogle, Collector, gives the following account of the matter in 1780:—"It is necessary that I should mention another cause which affects the revenue of this province, as well on account of its importance, as in hopes of obtaining your sanction to measures which, if they are not sufficient to eradicate, appear at least likely to lessen the evil. The cause I allude to, is the great quantity of *bauzee zemin*, or lands exempted from rent. The mode long followed in the management of this province will serve partly to account for the extraordinary amount of free lands. For forty years the revenues were collected by the officers of Government, or through the medium of farmers. The authority of the zemindars was in a manner only ostensible; their names were set forth in all public accounts and papers relating to the revenue of their respective districts; they and their officers possessed houses and held lands, on the produce of which they subsisted, but they were not interested in the collections. They derived no benefit from an increase of the rents of their pergunnah, and they suffered no loss by a diminution. In this situation, however, they were permitted to exercise the privilege of giving pattas and sunnuds for free lands under all the various denominations and practices common throughout Bengal, and likewise of granting villages on a tenure called oponchakee (a term peculiar to this province), by which

the possessor is liable only to the payment of the original rent, and is exempted from all taxes or subsequent assessments. Thus, free from all responsibility, and restrained by no consideration of personal interest, it is not surprising that the zemindars were easily prevailed on by the solicitations of individuals, and the influence of public officers to grant sunnuds for charity and other beneficiary lands.

About three years ago, the zemindars of this province were first entrusted with the management, and became answerable for the revenues of pergunnahs. They have since endeavoured, indeed, to recover some part of the *bauzee zemin*, but the attempts have met with a powerful opposition in the superstition of the people and the common interest of the officers of Government, and having been directed chiefly against the grants of former zemindars, have had to struggle with titles supported by long possession, as well as by written sunnuds. Even where resumptions were made, they seldom tended to increase the funds from which the public revenue is drawn; the lands continued to be classed under the head of lakhiraj or free, the incumbent only, not the tenure, was changed. In the meantime, the zemindars and their officers invested with the complete and unrestrained management in their districts, anxious to secure some lasting benefit from their novel authority, have made considerable additions to their household lands, and having taken a great portion of the villages into their own hands, have in many instances reduced the jumma by grants and private alienations, or have let the lands at a low rent to their dependents and favourites."

Mr. Bogle proposed plans for registering and enquiring into the titles, the main points of which were subsequently adopted. The Committee in 1781 anticipated an increase to the revenue of two lacs of rupees by these proceedings. Eight years later, a register was formed by Mr. McDowall, who had employed 30 mohurirs for more than four months at the work; and he reported that resumption proceedings could produce an increased revenue of Rs. 94,177, but that there would be occasioned thereby great clamour, distress, and disgust. These registers are not forthcoming; they were probably burnt in one of the fires to which the thatched buildings used as cutcherries were subject. The earliest registers, now extant, were made in 1207, and contain nearly 20,000 entries. Among this number, 125 holdings have been since resumed, giving a revenue of Rs. 6,580.

These enquiries related only to lands held rent-free, and did not touch the connected abuse of letting tenures at inadequate rents. There were two classes of tenure created by the zemindars, the Oponchakee and Mazkury talooks; the former were held at fixed rates, and included Mahatram, Pirpal, and Devutter, or beneficiary lands of various denominations. A list of these grants prepared by Mr. McDowall, paying an aggregate rental of Rs. 87,771, is among our records. The Mazkury talooks were subject to increase of revenue. About forty talooks of both kinds were separated from their parent estates at the permanent settlement, yielding a revenue of over half a lac of rupees.

The sub-tenures now existing are putnees, ijaras, but principally large jotes, which are very common, and some of them are very exten-

sive. Very few ryots have rights of occupancy; the Mahommedans especially are very migratory, fond of changing their habitation, and always rushing to new-formed alluvial soil; but there is some kind of customary tenant-right generally recognized for the sales of *sarsari* jotes, that is, holdings without any defined rights, are daily registered; 505 such sales were registered in the year 1871-72. More particulars on present holdings will be found in Appendix C.

Agriculture.—Next in importance to rice, the chief staples of the district, were tobacco, indigo, and opium. Tobacco retains its importance to this day, and the quality is highly spoken of. It is bought by the Mughs of Chittagong for manufacture into Burmah cigars. Indigo, an inferior quality mixed with lime, was purchased by the Bhooteas at a rate of Rs. 22 to Rs. 23 per maund, and carried into Thibet. This has always been in this district largely a domestic manufacture. The ryots cultivate on their own account, and sell the plant or maké the indigo in small vats of their own. Large factories under European management early flourished. A son of Collector McDowall was a planter in this district, and died here. The only two factories still remaining have fallen into native hands, and are fast breaking up into their constituent parts; but I doubt whether the produce of indigo of a coarse quality has at all decreased from the yield of former days.

Opium was cultivated on the lands east of the Teesta. The price at which it was delivered by the contractor was Rs. 240 per chest of one maund and a half; and the supply from Rungpore averaged 130 chests per year, out of a total supply of between 1,500 and 1,600 chests from Bengal and Behar. I believe that the cultivation continued in this district until 1841, when the check in the opium trade, caused by the China war, led to the curtailment of the manufacture, and the supply from Rungpore, which was of inferior quality, was discontinued, and has not since been resumed.—(10-12-79), (21-10-81).

Village Officers.—Such scraps as we have here of the village system were introduced during the Mahommedan occupation. Cooch Behar Proper has no institution of the kind. The Collector, in 1788, gives an exhaustive list of the collecting establishment under the zemindars, which entailed a charge of Rs. 19-11 per cent. on the total collections. (See Appendix A., No. 20). In the long list the patwarry and the bosneah are the two principal village officers: side by side with those we gather elsewhere were the mandals or paramanicks, (the term of similar meaning, pradhan, now common, does not appear in the records). These latter are the principal men in any locality who are looked up to by the inferior ryots to advise in and settle matters of local interest, from killing a thief who has been caught in the act, to the adjustment of every trivial caste question. The term bosneah is, to a great extent, interchangeable with those of mandal and paramanick, and so, practically, is that of patwarry; for the patwarries are generally appointed by the zemindars from among the village headmen, and the head ryots have always formed the means of communication between the superior zemindary officers and the village. We read in a report of 1778, "when the settlement is made with any country, the

Canoongoe's office and Dewan's sheristah become the channels of information to the patwarries and paramanicks of the villages, and they communicate their accounts to each ryot." The term bosneah has now gone a good deal out of use, yielding to mandal or pradhan; it now often indicates a kind of sardar attending at the zemindary cutcherry; but in the last century, bosneah was the name most generally recognized for the heads of villages. In the Dimla disturbances of 1783, and on other occasions, the bosneahs were always the leaders and spokesmen of the ryots.

The office of headman is practically elective. When a ryot attains to property and position, his neighbours call on him in cases of emergency: the title is in many cases passed on from father to son; but if the position is not maintained, it is but an empty sound, and new rising men become the recognized chiefs of the community.

Mullahs and Cazees.—Among the papers of the decennial settlement occurs the following report of the zemindars on this subject:—"Formerly, a tax was levied on the Mutchelmen (sic) on account of Cazeeana, but since it was abolished by Government, the same has been discontinued At present there are mullahs stationed in the several villages on the part of the cazees, who receive something on the marriages of Mutchelmen (altered to Mussalmans), but there is no fixed rate, the amount given depending upon the pleasure of the parties. No rozeena, or daily allowance, is paid to any one from any of the chaklas or pergunnahs dependent in our zemindaries." (Signed by the zemindars of Cazeerhat, Kankina, Futtehpore, and Coondy.) The zemindar of Bykuntpore reported that it had never been the custom in his pergunnah to pay anything on account of daily allowance or fees to cazees.

There are still cazees, I believe, who attend at marriages among the respectable classes of Mahommedans; but among the lower classes, any villager who can read or recite a passage from the *Koran* is called a mullah, and his services are called in for the celebration of their marriages, of which no record whatever is kept.

Currency and Finance.—After the collapse of the Rungpore currency, the old Cooch Behar or narainy rupee, the chief medium of exchange was the clipt French Arcot. Sicca rupees would not pass. We find the commercial resident complaining in 1783 that his business had been put a stop to, because a bill of exchange had been cashed in that currency. The tribute of Cooch Behar was paid in new narainy half rupees, which had to be cashed through the shroffs at the rate of 400 half rupees for 100 sicca. Mr. McDowall reduced the rate to 360 halves for 100 sicca. The nominal value of the new narainy was 272 halves to 100 sicca. In 1781, the Government made arrangements for the establishment of a copper currency: formerly cowrees were in use.

The Rungpore revenues were remitted to Moorshedabad or Calcutta by bills of native bankers, paying a premium of from 1 to 2 per cent. for the convenience, but some failures among the shroffs induced the Company to escort their own treasure. This, however, rendered them liable to the dangers of the roads. In 1792, a remittance of Rs. 14,000

was robbed on the way to Moorshedabad, and in the following year, another of Rs. 10,000, between Cooch Behar and Rungpore; the money was in bags, and the robbers made a rush at dawn, while the guards were most of them scattered about in the jungle and fields, and carried off the bags. Several of the sepoys and pykes were killed or wounded on each occasion by the raybanshes (a spear head mounted on a long bamboo) of the dacoits. In the second instance, the Collector, Mr. Lumsden, made a local enquiry at Mogulhat, the scene of the occurrence, and seemed inclined to lay the blame on a class of outcasts, known as jackal-caters, but no clue was obtained in either case.

The rate of interest charged by the shroffs on good security was one per cent. per month; on indifferent security, it rose to Rs. 3-2 per month.—(27-4-91), (16-3-92).

IX.—The Permanent Settlement.

In considering the position of the zemindars prior to the permanent settlement, it must be borne in mind that the term zemindar is a very wide one, including different classes of owners, the origin of whose rights was very various. Thus, in Rungpore, we have what, for want of better terms, may be styled the semi-feudatory estates, such as Bykuntpore and the chaklas, held by the Rajah of Cooch Behar; the subfeudatory or the rest of Coochwara, held by descendants of Cooch Behar officers, who had a century before been inducted by the Moguls into their estates as zemindars; the new purchasers, such as Baharbund and Sorooppore, who could pretend to no rights beyond any limitations the Government might have chosen to have entered in their deeds of possession; the large zemindars, owners of what had been principalities, such as Edrakpore and Dinagepore; and lastly, the smaller ones, which were generally holders of talooks, which had been separated from the larger estates. It was the position of the fourth of the above classes, whose principalities had parcelled out Bengal, that dominated the question of the position of the zemindars in general.

The zemindars were more than mere contractors for the revenue; that term rightly defines the position of the farmers, who, under the Mahommedans and under the first settlements of the English, leased the districts from Government. The Committee of Revenue, in their order on the Baharbund measurement case in 1786, already quoted, speak of the "zemindar's office," and of his being "vested with the superintendence and collection of the revenues of a zemindary." This gives a closer view of the zemindar's real position: they held an administrative office, become hereditary by long custom, and they possessed an estate in that office with rights vague and undefined. The superior right of Government as the sole owner of the soil was unequivocally maintained and admitted. During the year of trouble, 1194 B.S., Mr. McDowall reports that, in order to induce the zemindars to engage for the previous year's revenue without deduction, he had represented to them that a zemindar had no longer a right to his land, but while he continued a good and useful subject to the state; and that if they insistead on refusing their services, he should insist on their relinquishing

by a regular deed all right and title to their zemindaries. Again, petition of the zemindars relating to the settlement of 1195 B.S. commences with these words:—"The country belongs to the Company, and we, the zemindars, are only appointed for the purpose of transacting the business of it." The zemindars could not make a fresh measurement or assessment on the ryots without the permission of Government. Mr. Purling, who commenced the decennial settlement, writes in 1790:—"Government in this country is not the participator according to exigency of the produce of the land, but the positive possessor of the whole of the profits of the soil, allowing but a maintenance to those whose duties are devoted to the state."

On the other hand, the hereditary character of the zemindars, and their preferential right to a settlement "on terms sufficiently moderate, to enable them to maintain a degree of respect among their dependents," was recognized by the Directors in 1777. When dispossessed of their zemindaries, by the same being let to farmers, they were given a mushahera, or allowance of 10 per cent., on the revenues, and they were held entitled to hold a moderate amount of land not included among the settlement assets.

Two incidents of a distinctly proprietary character attached to their status. One was that they could grant sub-tenures or talooks in gift, or purchase out of their zemindaries. For long previous to the English occupation they had been in the habit of making these grants, and they continued to do so subsequently in spite of prohibitions; several such grants, where the revenue had been secured by a proper assessment of the talook, were made with sanction of the Collectors, and are recorded in their proceedings; but the right had been so very much abused, that the action of the zemindars in this respect had seriously curtailed the Government revenue. Secondly, their lands were subject to be sold for arrears of revenue. This itself is a distinct admission of their possession of some saleable rights; and this liability is enunciated in our earliest records. In the instructions for the settlement of 1777 is this clause, "that for all lands let to the zemindars as above directed, it be expressly stipulated in their kabooleats that in case of their falling in arrears, they shall be liable to be dispossessed, and their zemindaries, or portions of them, shall be sold to make up the deficiency." This liability to sale is repeated over and over again. Mr. Goodlad in 1789 reports, that he had tried every means, except corporal punishment, to recover the balances from the zemindars; and he applied to the Board for the sale of their lands. Threats of sale constantly occur, which were not carried into effect, because the balances were otherwise recovered; and there are not wanting instances of actual sales. In fine, we may conclude that while the zemindars held these scraps of proprietary right, which had naturally developed out of the hereditary character of their office, their position altogether was so very vague and undefined, and the authority of the Government as a recent conqueror was so freely allowed, that any conditions of settlement and limitations of their authority whatever, short of absolute deprivation of their zemindaries, would not have borne the character of unjustness or

harshness. The permanent settlement which, in fact, gave proprietary right, with some uncertain reservations, in favor of the ryots, which were never enforced, was a pure gift—a splendid one to those who had brains and money to make good use of it, a fatal one to those who had neither.

It is interesting to observe the very gradual working up of the idea of the permanent settlement. In 1776 the directors write:—"Having considered the different circumstances of letting your lands on leases for lives or in perpetuity, we do not, for many weighty reasons, think it advisable to adopt either of those modes;" and they approved of letting the province of Dinagepore to the Rajah for life as an experiment, the issue of which would in some measure enable them to judge of the propriety of adopting a general system on similar principles. These instructions were repeated year by year, and indignant, indeed, were they on receiving information of the fixed leases granted to Baharbund and others. They wrote in 1783 anent this: "We repeat our orders that you do not grant fixed leases on any pretence whatever. The expediency of letting the lands for a longer period than one year, or in perpetuity, is a great political question, on which, in the present critical situation of our affairs, we cannot at this time come to any determination." In 1785 the Rajah of Cooch Behar applied for a fixed lease for his zemindary of Boda, &c., but the proposal only met with a contemptuous notice from the Board. A change of policy, however, suddenly appears. In the spring of the same year orders are sent to make a five years' settlement, and the Boda zemindar, after a second ineffectual attempt to get a permanent settlement, agreed to the one for the short term; but as it was the year just following the famine, none of the other zemindars entered into it.

The arrangements for the decennial settlement commenced in 1790; and how that settlement was merged by a word into a permanent one, is matter of history. No worse time could have been chosen for this operation in Rungpore, as far as the interests of the Government were concerned. The country required years to recover from the effects of the disasters of 1787, and the zemindars very unwillingly entered into the arrangements, with the exceptions of those of Baharbund, Boda, and Bykuntpore. Two years elapsed before the settlement was finally arrived at; and instead of the hoped for increase of Rs. 1,39,000 on the revenues of 1196 B.S., in order to attain to the standard of 1193 B.S. for Cazeerhat and Boda, and 1187 B.S. for the rest of the district, the total increase obtained was between Rs. 15,000 and Rs. 20,000, and the permanently assessed revenue on a Coochwara was about the same as the demand of 1190 B.S., the year following the insurrection, and the lowest rate at which it had ever stood since the acquisition of the country by the English. Boda and Bykuntpore alone, among the Coochwara mehals, were kept up to the standard.

A temporary settlement of from 20 to 30 years would have given sufficient stability of possession for the encouragement of cultivation, and at its close a rich increase would have accrued to the Government revenue, or a life settlement, like that of Dinagepore, would have afforded

opportunity for the initiation of a succession duty on the falling in the lives, a most useful and unobjectionable source of revenue. Rungpore was on the whole very lightly assessed: Baharbund especially so. In several instances, where the incompetent zemindars sold, with the Collector's sanction, talooks for the payment of their balances, monied purchasers were readily found willing to take such at more than their proportionate share of the Government demand, and withal pay a premium exceeding two years' revenue as purchase-money. The total permanently assessed revenue was sicca Rs. 8, 19, 621; this did not include Boda, the revenue of which amounted to a lac, which had been settled by the Commissioner just appointed for Cooch Behar.

One item of the assets of the settlement deserves a passing notice. It was called the foujdary mehal, and yielded Rs. 80 per annum; it appears in the books as having been originally a tax for feeding the nawab's buffaloes, and some other charges. Mr. Lumsden, who obtained the excision of the item from the revenue assets, reports in 1791, that the receipts of the farmer who leased the mehal arose principally from taxes paid by Brahmins, who performed religious ceremonies for sellers of spirituous liquors, prostitutes, washermen, and other low classes of Hindus, by those who beat tom-toms or played on trumpets, serindahs, and other musical instruments, and by persons who performed feats of dexterity, danced in public shows, or exhibited bears, monkeys, and snakes.

X.—On changes since the settlement.

The District boundaries.—The boundary between Dinagepore and Rungpore has been simplified by fixing the Kurutiya as the line of division to the south-west. This cut Sorooppore into halves, brought in Pyrabund, Batashun, and other estates which had before this time been sold away from the Dinagepore Rajah's property, and transferred to Dinagepore a portion of Edrakpore lying west of the river, including the site of Ghoraghat. The district of Bograh was subsequently carved out at the south; but a large portion of what was then transferred, has, from the commencement of the year 1872, been received back in thannah Govindgunge, the nucleus of the old Edrakpore estate, and the site of the Ghoraghat collectorate. Immediately after the permanent settlement, pergunnahs Patiladaha and Bhiturbund to the south-east and east were transferred from Rajshahye, the former having been then lately purchased by Gopi Tagore, and both originally portions of the large Nattore zemindary. The change in the course of the Brahmaputra, which divided Patiladaha into two portions, rendered necessary the transfer of the eastern division, the thannah of Dewangunge to Mymensing, which occurred some few years since. The latest loss the district has sustained, has arisen from the supposed necessity of providing a head-quarter station for the annexed Dooars of Bhootan, and a stepping-stone between Darjeeling and the rest of the straggling Cooch Behar division. This is a change much to be regretted; it wrested from us pergunnah Bykuntpore, and the two chaklas of Boda and Patgram: how closely connected with the history of old Rungpore our records show. The

district, as it stands, is shorn of half its traditions, and it is to be hoped that an opportunity may arise of restoring it to its original and natural limits.

Sales.—The effects of the stringency exercised subsequent to the decennial settlement in the realization of the revenue have been partly pointed out. Edrakpore collapsed early: Cazeerhat suffered much, with the exception of the two anna share, the Tooshvanda zemindary, the remaining four shares became much reduced by sales. Kankina remained whole, and the Futtehpore and Coondy estates, as a rule, weathered the breakers.

Partitions.—In the papers extracted from the Boda case (Appendix A, No. 2), there is a trace of a partition effected by the Mahommedans in that chakla; it was probably nominal, for the nominees of the Mahommedans never obtained secure possession, and it does not now obtain. Cazeerhat, Futtehpore, and Coondy, were divided during the Mahommedan era, and came in that state into our hands. Very few partitions have been effected in the parent estates. Among the 22 now remaining in the district of the 27 estates settled, (exclusive of the separated talooks,) only three have been subjected to partition. This operation has been mainly confined to the talooks separated at the time of settlement, or formed by sales of portions of the original zemindaries for arrears of revenue. The total number of partitions have been 49, *i.e.*, from the time of the permanent settlement up to

1840—	(18 years),	15 cases.
1841—1860	(20 years),	14 „
1861—1872	(12 years),	20 „

These operations have added largely to the number of estates borne on the rent-roll: three estates held by the same family, that took ten years to divide; added 56 new numbers to the rent-roll, the lowest share being one of 1½ gundas, or $\frac{3}{640}$ths of one of the estates.

New Estates.—The change in the course of the Teesta to the eastward in the early part of the century left a strip of land along the deserted course available for settlement, which, after resumption suit was settled with the riparian proprietors, yielding a total of 23 estates, which, on 6 permanent and 17 temporary leases, bear a revenue of Rs. 2,778.

The present number of estates on the rent-roll is 563, thus derived—

Original number settled			... ...	72
Deduct transferred to other districts			...	13
Remaining			... ...	59
Add new estates from resumption proceedings				125
Ditto	ditto	sales ...	...	152
Ditto	ditto	partitions	...	172
Ditto	ditto	dried river beds	...	23
Transfers from other districts ...			...	32
Present revenue roll		... Co.'s Rs.	...	9,74,089

Permanently assessed	Co.'s Rs.	...	9,71,530
Temporarily ditto	„ ...	...	2,559
8 estates with revenue under 10	„ pay Rs.	...	35
184 ditto under 100	„ ...	...	8,668
215 ditto under 1,000	„ ...	...	93,774
156 ditto over 1,000	„ ...	...	8,71,612
463 estates, held by 1,229 Hindus, pay Rs.		...	8,74,187
54 ditto ditto 160 Mahommedans		...	32,547
45 ditto held jointly by 261 Hindus and 186 Mahommedans		...	67,305
1 Government estate ...	...	...	50

XI.—Judicial.

Vivid pictures gleam from among the records of the past, showing the unsettled state of the times; and Rungpore, a frontier district, bordering on Nepaul, Bhootan, Cooch Behar, and Assam, was peculiarly liable to be infested by banditti. These ravaged the country in armed bands, amounting to several hundreds. Bhiturbund and Sorooppore, both detached portions of Rajshahye, offered great facilities for refuge. In 1784, on the application of Mr. Grindall, the Collector of Tajpore, Ensign Duncanson was despatched against several 'herds of dacoits,' one of which infested the road between Dinagepore and Rungpore, which lay through Sorooppore, and who had hanged a 'faquir' for complaining at Dinagepore against them, and had carried off six hundred wives and daughters of ryots. Many of the captives were rescued by the valiant Ensign.

The no-man's land, lying south of the stations of Dinagepore and Rungpore, and west of present Bograh, towards the Ganges, far removed from any local authority, was a favourite haunt of the the banditti. In 1787, Lieutenant Brenan was employed against a noted dacoit leader, named Bhawani Pattuck; in this quarter. He despatched a havildar with twenty-four sepoys in search of the robbers, and they surprised Pattuck with sixty of his followers in their boats. Pattuck's chief man, a Pathan, headed a desperate resistance, during which the Pathan, Pattuck himself, and two other headmen, were killed, and eight were wounded, besides forty-two taken prisoners. Of the attacking party, two sepoys only were wounded. Seven boats, with arms, accoutrements, and ammunition, as the Lieutenant expresses it, were taken. Pattuck's force consisted wholly of up-countrymen: he himself was a native of Budgepore, and he was in league with another noted dacoit, Majnoo Shaha, who made yearly raids from the southern side of the Ganges. We just catch a glimpse from the Lieutenant's report of a female dacoit, by name Devi Chaudhranee, also in league with Pattuck, who lived in boats, had a large force of burkundazes in her pay, and committed dacoities on her own account, besides getting a share of the booty obtained by Pattuck. Her title of Chaudhranee would imply that she was a zemindar, probably a petty one, else she

need not have lived in boats for fear of capture. Brenan observes, as follows, on the complicity of the zemindars with these dacoits, and closes with some very pertinent remarks:—"I did not imagine that it was a matter of any importance to know that the principal zemindars in most parts of these districts, and I believe, I may venture to add, in most parts of the country too, have always a banditti ready to let loose on such of their unfortunate neighbours as have any property worth seizing on, and in accomplishing which even the lives of the unhappy sufferers are seldom spared. The zemindars commit these outrages in the most perfect security, as there is no reward offered to detect them; and from the nature of the dependence of the dacoits on them, it cannot be effected without bribery. To establish, therefore, a proof of connivance in the zemindars contiguous to Sahebgunj, I must first establish a greater sum of money than I have it in my power to advance, or the Board may think proper to reimburse me. I hazard nothing in confirming to you, notwithstanding the intelligence which I before communicated; for it is by no means reasonable to admit that everything which cannot be proved in a court of justice is not true." The Lieutenant writes from Silberris, and the engagement with Pattuck took place in pergunnah Baharbund, in "Cantoo Baboo's zemindary." The regulations of 1783 contained the following rule, which, it seems, was never carried out:—"That whenever a zemindar is proved guilty of having abetted, practised, or connived at robberies or murder, none of his family be permitted to succeed to the zemindary without the express permission of the Board."

In 1789, we have an account of a large body of bandits who had occupied the Bykuntpore forest, lying at the apex of the district right under the hills, whence they issued on their predatory excursions. The forest was composed of tree jungle interwoven with cane, and was impassable, except by narrow winding paths, known only to the dacoits, who maintained in the forest twenty-two posts, each under a separate leader. Mr. McDowall got together a force of 200 burkundazes, and held all the entrances into the forest: some months elapsed before any decisive result was obtained; several skirmishes ensued, and the robbers were at length starved out and escaped into Nepaul and Bhootan; but great numbers were captured, including their leader Kripa, and several of his principal associates. Within twelve months, in this and other parts of the district, our energetic Collector arrested and brought to trial 549 dacoits.

Large bodies of Sanyasis traversed the district, levying contributions on the villages. In 1782, we read of a body of 700, consisting of Sanyasis and Mussulman fakirs, and having horses, camels, elephants, and arms of all kinds: Lieutenant Macdonald was sent against them with 180 sepoys, and he brought in their leaders; the followers escaped under the hills. Three years later, as many as 1,500 crossed the Brahmaputra at Dewangunge; they had rockets, jinjal pieces, and 110 horses.

Besides these wandering thieves, there were numbers of these Sanyasis settled down in hermitages, which they fortified, and where they

combined the trade of money-lender with that of dacoity. Mr. John Eliot, in a report made to the Board from Jafarshahee, dated 29th April, 1789, makes mention of two lutchas (dacoit boats), of 80 and 100 cubits in length respectively, which he had seized, and which belonged to head Sanyasis; and an extract from his report, given in Appendix A (No. 14), gives a detailed account of the oppressions practised by these scourges, not only on the ryots, but even on the zemindars and their officers, whom they carried off and confined until their demands were complied with.

The sepoy officers had full occupation in dealing with local insurrection, gangs of dacoits, raids from Nepaul, and troubles in Cooch Behar, of which notice will be made as we go on. The burkundaz establishment employed in the district was 300 men; but Mr. McDowall, after his successful operations against the dacoits, reduced it to half that number. There remained then, in addition to that establishment, a havildar with 25 sepoys at Bykuntpore, and a like force at Dimla.

Here may be noted that, in 1789, three boys and sixteen girls, who had been inveigled away by a Portuguese writer, with the intention of selling them as slaves at Chandernagore, were rescued by the Collector of Krisnaghur, and returned to this district.

Boundary disputes between the zemindars of adjoining districts cropped up in abundance, sometimes, though comparatively seldom, resulting in riots and loss of life. In all those traced, with the exception of one case, Baharbund was implicated, one with Cooch Behar, one with Goorlah in Rangamatty, two with Bhiturbund, and disputes with Currybarry, caused by the ever changing currents of the Brahmaputra, which have lasted a century, and are in full force at the present time.

The ameens sent forth from each authority to investigate these cases gave always diametrically opposite reports, as Mr. Baillie, the Collector of Gowalpara, in writing about the Currybarry dispute, forcibly expresses it:—"I am convinced that it never can be settled by black ameens; they are far too venal to settle the right of controverted property." In the only boundary case in which the zemindar of Baharbund was not concerned, between Edrakpore and one of the sicca mehals, the council at Purneah were driven to their wit's end; the ameens differed as usual. The Council make the remark, that the testimony of the ryots brought by the one side must be considered as of equal validity with that given by those of the other, and they were half inclined to escheat the land to Government; but they adopted the "milder method," of giving two-thirds to one disputant, and one-third to the other, in proportion to the extent and value of their respective zemindaries. On this principle of decision a pauper suitor would have a poor chance of justice.—(1-12-78), (10-12-82), (25-8-83), (30-10-84), (19-3-86), (9-7-87), (2-6-89), (9-9-89), (3-4-90).

XII.—Personnel and Charges of the Administration.

Political.—We have some relics of the great Governor-General in the shape of three holograph letters, which I found among the old bundles, and which are here transcribed.

(*Addressed—On the Service.*)

No. 1.

To Mr. Purling,
At Rungpore.

Fort William, 19th May 1778.

Sir,

Your letter respecting the complaints of the Nacauds, and a similar one from the Board of Trade on the same subject, are now before the Board for their consideration.

But as the Board will not assemble for some days, owing to the despatch of the Northington for England, and consequently will not be able to transmit you their orders immediately; and as Mr. Aldersey has informed me that the Nacauds threaten to quit the province, if the zemindars continue to press them with the same demands, I desire you will cause those demands to be suspended, until you receive the orders of the Board on the subject.

I am, Sir,
Your most obdt., hum. servt.,
Warren Hastings.

No. 2.

To Mr. Purling, *Fort William, 7th November* 1778.

Sir,

I learn from report that Mr. Lear, in order to recover some outstanding balances, has engaged in hostilities with the people of Assam, and actually marched an armed force into their country. I am very desirous of knowing the truth of this report, and therefore request you will inform yourself minutely of every circumstance concerning it, and transmit to me the account of it, that I may either bring it before the Board, or take such other steps as may be proper.

In the meantime, should Mr. Lear be actually engaged in any measures the consequences of which may appear to you alarming, I recommend it to you to endeavour to check them immediately. I understand that Gowalpara is under Dacca, and it may therefore be necessary that you correspond with Mr. Shakespear on this subject.

I am, Sir,
Your most obedt., hum. servt.,
Warren Hastings.

No. 3.

To Mr. Purling, *Fort William, 7th November* 1778.

Sir,

The enclosed petition contains strong charges against the Tannadar of Bijayday: I beg leave to refer it to you to enquire into, and in case you find them well founded, to remove him.

I am, Sir,
Your most obedt., hum. servt.,
Warren Hastings.

The case of the Nacauds has been already referred to. Our relations with Assam will be noticed in the next part.

The proclamation in English and Persian, sent for publication here as elsewhere, issued on the occasion of the "daring and unexampled treachery" of Rajah Cheit Singh of Benares, has an interest of its own, and the English version is given in Appendix A (No. 15).

In 1784, a voluntary contribution of near half a lac of rupees was collected from the Rungpore zemindars, in order to erect grain magazines to provide against the occurrence of famines. Mr. Moore observes that such temporary contributions were not unusual, and that the zemindars would not pay it from any stock of their own, but, 'as usual,' levy it from the country under the head of mangan or want.—(23-12-84.)

Our notes regarding Hastings' administration will find a suitable finish, with reference to a testimonial supplied by the zemindars of this district at the close of 1788, testifying to the "justice and moderation" of his rule. (See Appendix A, No. 16.) This cannot be called spontaneous, since it was called forth by instructions from the Calcutta Council, and it was one of a number that was produced at the trial, which had commenced 13th February 1788.

In 1787, by order of the Governor-General, Lord Cornwallis, the Collector sent some Tangans, or Bhootea ponies, to Lucknow, as a present to Madajee Scindia, and he added a pair of Assam hawks, one of them a Scia Bazi, a kind much prized.—(7-4-87.)

Local.—The first Collector of Rungpore was Mr. Gross, who formed the heavy settlement of 1178 B.S. (1771-72 A.D.); he died here in April 1771. Mr. Gross had not been here long, for in 1176 B.S. (1769-70 A.D.) there were native Collectors, Modun Gopal and Mirza Hossein Reza. Mr. Purling came for his first incumbency some time in the year 1771-72, soon after the death of Mr. Gross, and we find him still here in 1773. He was succeeded by a Mr. Harris; but when that occurred, or how long the latter acted, there is nothing to show.

When Purling came a second time in 1777, the collections of the district had been for some years under the Provincial Council of Dinagepore or Purneah; the Council had at first borne the former name, but as it was located at Purneah it became subsequently called by that name. In 1779 Purling went to Oude, and in 1781 he was put on the Board of Commissioners for the management of the Dutch East India Company's possessions at Chinsurah, which had been taken in war.

He was succeeded as Collector of Rungpore by George Bogle, who had in 1774 been on a mission to Thibet, passing through Bhootan with great difficulty. His manuscripts relating to this mission, are in the library of the British Museum. Bogle died early in 1781, and Goodlad, who had been assistant here for two years, was appointed Collector and Judge; while the native offices of foujdar and tannadar were abolished. Goodlad remained until 1784, when he was succeeded by Moore. He was for a year the Collector of Ghoraghat, and then we lose sight of him.

Moore remained not quite two years, and left for Europe; and early in 1786, Day Hart McDowall was appointed: he remained until the close of 1789, when he also retired from the service to Europe. He writes in 1788, that he had come out to India in 1770 as a writer, and had by that time attained the status of a senior merchant.

Purling came for the third time in May 1790, and commenced the decennial settlement; but he had to leave on account of ill health in December of that year, and we get news of his death in the spring of 1791. He was succeeded by Mr. Lumsden, who completed the settlement; and when he left in the spring of 1793 for Chuprah, James Graham, who had been assistant for some years, became Collector. The office of Judge and Magistrate was, at the same time, separated from that of Collector, and Mr. M. Leslie was appointed the first District Judge.

Charges.—The Collectors drew a salary of Sicca Rs. 1200, with Rs. 300 for house rent, which was modified later into Co.'s Rs. 1,500, with house rent Rs. 150; and they had, besides, a commission on the revenues, amounting to one per cent., up to ten lacs, but subject to a deduction of one per cent. on all uncollected balances. This yielded from Rs. 6,000 to Rs. 8,000 per year, extra. The travelling allowance was Re. 1-1 per mile, or Rs. 12 per day. The Collector got, besides as Judge, one-tenth from all the fees collected for suits in his court; but they were very few. The amount of fees drawn in one year by the Judge was Rs. 112 only—(16-3-85.) In view of this return, one of the court regulations of 1781, giving authority to inflict corporal punishment up to 20 rattans for trivial and groundless complaints, "to deter chicanery and intrigue," seems hardly called for, though such a rule might be useful in the present day.

In Appendix A (No. 21) is shown the collectorate establishment fixed in 1781. A separate establishment was allowed as Judge. The establishment of Mr. Leslie, as Judge and Magistrate in 1793, is also given. (See Appendix A, No. 22.)

Buildings.—There were three jails,—the dewanny, the foujdary, and the Naib Nazim's; in the last, there were in 1789 three hundred prisoners kept in irons. The prisoners were not numerous in the Magistrate's or foujdary jail; it had originally been situated in Mahigunge, but Mr. McDowall had it removed near his residence, apparently to its present site near Dhap, for we find the Collector, Mr. Lumsden, residing at Dhap in 1791. The estimate for the new jail was Rs. 245. The only masonry building belonging to the Company under the Collector was a powder magazine, in bad repair. Respecting the old factory buildings there are no details.

PART IV.—OUR NEIGHBOURS.

I.—Nepaul.

Nepaul adjoined Rungpore on the north-west, its territory extending to the western side of the Mahanuddee river. This tract had formerly belonged to the Sikkim, otherwise called the Boot Gaund Raja: but the

petty zemindars had rebelled against him, and called in the aid of the Goorkhas, who readily responded and annexed the country. Thence raids, almost annually, from 1780 to 1786, were made into the Bykuntpore Raja's zemindary, on the pretence that the foujdar of the Sikkim Raja had taken refuge there; and Ganga Ram Teppa, the Goorkha leader, was helped in these incursions by a nephew of the Bykuntpore zemindar, who was at enmity with his uncle.

In February 1786 occurred the most serious and the last incursion of the kind; the Goorkhas penetrated to Julpigoree, and killed or wounded ten persons or more, and carried off over a hundred prisoners and cattle, variously estimated at from 500 to 1,000 in number. Ensign Duncanson was despatched from Rungpore—post haste—with a small force of sepoys and burkundazes; he arrived at Julpigoree three days after the plunderers had left; and though he had only 17 sepoys and 20 burkundazes with him, he very pluckily pushed on to the borders at Cossimgunge, on the Mahanuddee, and reconnoitred a Goorkha fort on the opposite side of the river, which he found to contain 200 troops. A morning later, he arranged to meet Gunga Ram alone, and having ridden across the Mahanuddee, he found the Goorkha surrounded with 150 of his troops, which number increased gradually, until they amounted to 300, all hill men. Gunga Ram and our Ensign had a long parley, during which the former grew insolent, and his men smelt strong of liquor, and were becoming intoxicated, so Duncanson turned his pony's head and withdrew from the conference, and the next day retired to Julpigoree, having for three successive nights with his men stood to their arms in momentary expectation of an attack. In a few days Captain Alexander arrived at Julpigoree with reinforcements, and on the 2nd March he stormed the fort Needanturrah Gurh which Duncanson had reconnoitred; and as it was built of saul timber, he burned it down. In this engagement fifty of the enemy were killed. Captain Alexander then waited for guns before he could proceed against a stronger fort, Punchenee, and meanwhile carried on a written correspondence with the Goorkha leader. In a very racy letter of Gunga Ram, alluding to the threats employed by the Captain, he says:—"I am not like the fumes of the poppy that ascend and dissipate, neither am I like a cucumber to be taken and eaten;" and he ends by threatening in his turn to take the Captain prisoner and carry him to Nepaul. (See Appendix A, No. 17.) During this time, however, overtures had been opened by the Collector with a superior soubah, and a despatch was sent direct to the Nepaul Rajah: Gungaram was disavowed, and put in irons, and 55 women and children were given up at once; and it would seem that all the captives were given up, of whom any account could be obtained. A peaceable letter was received from the Rajah, couched in a very different style from that of his subordinate and the thanks of Government to Mr. McDowall satisfactorily terminated the whole affair.

Mr. McDowall's four years' term of office was a busy time. In addition to carrying out four annual settlements, during three years of which there were inundations, and in one a famine to impede the operations,

and catching over five hundred dacoits within twelve months, he had this Goorkha affair on his hands when he joined his post, and in the year of the floods he had to rescue the Cooch Behar Rajah from captivity, of which occurrence the narration will be made in our next section.

A few remarks will complete this notice of Nepaul. In Appendix A (No. 25) is an account of the country, which seems worth preserving, given by a man despatched there by the Collector in the guise of a fakir, from which we learn that gold was obtained by the washing process, and that Nepaul had a copper currency, while Bengal still used cowries. A list of imports and exports from and to Nepaul, furnished by Mr. Lumsden in 1791, (see Appendix A, No. 24,) shows that gold to the value of Rs 40,000 was imported from that country, through Purneah and Behar, into Bengal.

Nepaul acknowledged the supremacy of the Chinese empire. In 1783, comes a letter from the Governor-General, to convey the thanks of, and some presents from, the Emperor of China, to the Talukdar of Battishazary, (zemindar of Bykuntpore,) for helping on some elephants which had been sent from the Rajah of Nepaul to the Emperor, and had passed through Bykuntpore. The presents were—

One piece of mussuzzer.
Three pieces of satin.
Six China purses.

The Chinese Emperor is still dependent for his elephants on his tributaries. When I was in Pekin in October 1871, there was great excitement owing to the near arrival of some elephants, a present from the King of Siam. The elephants formerly possessed by the Emperor had died some years before, and since that time there had been none for state purposes. The approach of the new elephants was proclaimed in the streets, and accounts of them, with rough representation of their shape in vermillion, were sold in hand bills by the beggar boys.—(7-4-80), (12-2-86), (17-2-86), (2-3-86), (11-3-86), (4-5-86), (18-12-93).

II.—Cooch Behar.

Cooch Behar, which a century before had included the greater part of Rungpore, now lay on the north-eastern frontier of the district, a small province, a buffer between Rungpore and the Bhooteas. It was the hostility of the latter which drove the Cooch Behar Rajah into our arms in 1772. In that year they had invaded the country, and carried away the Rajah, Durjendra Narayan, captive; the aid of the English was invoked, the Bhooteas were speedily defeated, and the Rajah was rescued: a treaty was formed, annexing Cooch Behar to Bengal, and providing for the payment of an annual tribute of half its revenues; and these relations have remained unaltered to the present day.

On the death of Rajah Durjendra in 1783, fresh troubles arose. There had grown up in the kingdom two offices, those of Dewan Deo and Nazir Deo, both held by members of the same family as that of the Rajah; the former, the manager of the household; the latter, the commander of the forces, who held the chatha, or umbrella, on the investiture of a new Rajah. Three generations before the then Nazir Deo Shanta

Narayan, who had driven back the Bykuntpore invaders, and made the peace with the Mahommedans, A.D. 1711, acquired thereby great power, and became a sort of mayor of the palace, and transmitted his authority to his successors. So when Durjeudra Narayan died, his infant son, Harendra, was set aside by the Nazir Deo Kogendra Narayan, who asserted that the appointment of a new Rajah rested with his office, assumed the management of the state, and appointed his own son to be jubraj, or heir apparent. He is said to have stationed guards on the palace, and stopped supplies, in order to force compliance with his wishes; so that several women died of starvation, and he imprisoned the officers of the former regime. But Kogendra met his match in the old Ranee Kanteshwari, Harendra's mother, who was an able and energetic woman, and had during her husband's reign been the malik, or ruler, of the kingdom. She applied, with success, to the Collector for assistance, Kogendra's claims were set aside, and he was driven out for a time by the aid of sepoys. He, however, bidded his time, and remained in such secrecy, that two years later, in 1786, when the Collector made special enquiries about him by direction of Government, he could nowhere be found, nor could it even be ascertained whether he was alive or dead. But the following year he moved to purpose: three thousand rupees had been collected, and this amount sufficed for a revolution, and a force of Sanyasees was raised, consisting of between five and seven hundred men. A note of alarm came one day in June 1787, from the Ranee, asking for aid, which was followed the next day by the intelligence that the attack had been made and the palace stormed, the Rajah was carried off in a doolie, and his grandmother in a palanquin, but his mother, the Ranee, was made to walk; they were taken to Bulrampore, where the Nazir Deo had a house on the confines of Cooch Behar towards Bijnee. The time was well chosen for this operation. Rungpore was a sheet of water, and the Collector was striving, might and main, to make the settlement of the revenue, but he nevertheless obtained reinforcements from Dinagepore across the flooded country; still some time elapsed before the troops could march to Behar.

The mimic war, however, soon collapsed, when the undisciplined levies came face to face with the sepoys. Even before the Dinagepore reinforcements could reach the scene of operations, the Nazir Deo's party had made an attack on a soubahdar, stationed with 50 sepoys at Nazirgunge, to support the collection of the revenues, and met with a crushing defeat, and their colors and drums were taken. Towards the close of August the detachment moved from Rungpore, under Captain Rattan, and by the end of the month the captives were rescued from the durance vile, in which they had been kept for two months and a half. Mr. McDowall highly extols the conduct and humanity of the troops, and considers they were justly entitled to the spoils they had obtained. These spoils consisted of some silver and brass utensils, (apparently some that Kogendra's people had plundered from the Rajah's palace,) that sold for Rs. 300, a horse, weak in the loins, that was kept by the Captain, and a few ponies.

Kogendra did not personally appear in this matter, his mother, Murrick Muttoo, acted for him; and according to her rival, Kanteshwari's

account, "though a woman, acted more than a manly part," by taking up a sword and shield, and constantly threatening her, the Ranee, and her son, the Rajah, with death. Murrick Muttoo and Kogendra's brother were, with others, in all 153 in number, taken prisoners, and the lesser people were sent for trial by the Magistrate to the native court. Kogendra finally came forward after a free pardon had been offered him, and a commission was formed to investigate the whole affair, and he made strenuous claims to a 9-anna share of the whole state, and to the entire zemindary of Boda, Patgram, and Purubbhag, which Shanta Narayan and other Nazir Deos after him had held in farm. The report of this commission, full of curious information, has been printed at the Cooch Behar press, Julpigoree. Kogendra seems to have obtained an allowance of Rs. 500 a month as the result. He died in 1808, the last of the Nazir Deos. Cooch Behar was put under a Commissioner during the minority of the Rajah, and we find the names of Henry Douglas, tho Hon'ble Charles Bruce and Richard Ahmuty, Commissioners, up to the close of the century.—(9-6-84), (14-6-87), (2-8-87), (29-8-87), (15-11-87), (20-9-93).

III.—Bhootan.

If Nepaul was a troublesome neighbour to Bykuntpore on the west, Bhootan was a far worse foe on the east; for while the former carried off people and property, the latter took land. Mr. Eden, in his 'Political Missions to Bhootan,' has given some account of the encroachments of the Bhootans in this quarter: they laid hold of the clause in the treaty made after the war about Cooch Behar, which enacted that the possessions of each should revert to their former state, and by persistent application on the part of the Deb Rajah to the Governor-General, obtained a large tract of Bykuntpore lying east of the Teesta, containing the celebrated temple of Shiva at Julpesh, and also a village west of the Teesta, named Ambaree Fallacotta, right in the centre of the zemindary. There can be no doubt that in the general confusion that preceded the English conquests, in the course of desultory warfare between the hill men and the petty states of the plains, the line of country occupied by the former had continually varied, and probably at some time or other the Bhooteas had been in possession of the territory they claimed; and moreover there is some reason to suppose, as stated by Buchanan, that the Bykuntpore Rajah had actually agreed to cede some territory to them, as an inducement for their attack on Cooch Behar, which had been brought about by his machinations: but it is, on the other hand, clear that the Bhooteas had not been in possession of the tracts in question immediately before their war with the English. Mr. Purling writes in 1790, some years after the lands had been given up:—"I was at Rungpore both before and since the Cooch Behar district was brought under the Company's protection, and I never, till now, heard of any claim of the Bhooteas, upon Julpesh and Fallacotta. Julpesh is a pagoda of Hindoo worship with which Bhooteas can have nothing to do."

A boundary decision of the Dinagepore council given in 1777, referring to the boundary between Bykuntpore and Bhootan, mentioned by Mr. Eden, is bad for vagueness; it does not specify the tracts in question, and it had no effect on the actual cession, for it was not unearthed until 1787: whereas the Government orders directing the transfer were first given in 1779, and repeated from time to time as the efforts of the Bykuntpore Rajah interposed delays. Considerations of policy, the desire to reach Thibet through Bhootan, actuated the Government in this matter. They said in regard to it:—"Without entering into the merits of the Deb Rajah's claims, we have thus readily acceded to them, as a pledge of our wish to oblige him, and to keep up the good understanding that has so long subsisted between the Bhootan Government and ours." And Mr. Goodlad writes in 1782:—"I have never gone to the Presidency, but Mr. Hastings has particularly enjoined me not to suffer anything to happen that could give the least umbrage to the Bhooteas."

The Bhootea in this affair showed himself a match for the Bengalee, notwithstanding that, in one of his petitions to the Governor-General, the Deb Rajah innocently remarks:—"We, hill people, are not much acquainted with the craft and cunning of those of Bengal," and the Rajah of Bykuntpore had to submit to his loss of territory. The first excessive deduction from his payments of revenue granted on this account of Rs. 13,572 was reduced to one of Rs. 6,238, and on this deduction from revenue of 1187 B.S., the standard year, the permanent settlement was fixed; and even so, I do not consider the zemindary was over-assessed, for its name Battishazary (batrish hazari) denotes that it had produced an income of Rs. 32,000 a year. The revenue paid in 1187 B.S. was French arcot Rs. 28,334, equivalent to sicca Rs. 25,935.

Towards the east also, the Bhooteas carried on their encroachments. There were two petty states subject to Rangamatty, which paid a revenue in elephants to us, and a tribute of cloth, oil, and dried fish to Bhootan. The smaller of these, Bidyagong, was wholly swallowed up, and its revenue ceased. In the other state, that of Bijnee, the Bhootan soubahs constantly interfered. The Rajah (of the Cooch Behar family) was murdered in 1791, and the instigator of the murder was at once appointed chief of the state by the Deb Rajah, who notified the appointment to the Commissioner of Cooch Behar, stating that the friendship subsisting between him and the Company rendered his appointment the same as that of the Bengal Government. A military force was sent to seize the murderer, which action brought forth two insolent letters from Bhootan soubahs. (See Appendix A, No. 18.) That of one, the Cherung soubah, a companion piece to the letter of Gangaram Teppa. This soubah was deposed by the Deb Rajah. The other, the Jumpah soubah, received the following spring a present of a "spying glass" and coral from the English Government, as a reward apparently for a certain degree of moderation in his insolence.

The Bhooteas came in annual trade caravans, bringing skins, blankets, cotton, chintz, musk, walnuts, gold dust, and 400 to 500 hill ponies to the value of Rs. 30,000 to Rs. 40,000, and they carried back in return indigo, broadcloth, leather, copper, lead, spices, and

hogs. The trade had at one time amounted to upwards of a lac of rupees; but the demand for ponies had fallen off. Some Bhooteas still come down as far as this, though there are new markets further north, where they can sell their goods; and there is some land in Mahigunge, unoccupied and unassessed, known as the Bhootea mehal, where they have encamped on their annual expeditions from time immemorial.—(6-4-79), (8-10-82), (21-1-85), (20-3-90), (20-6-92).

IV.—Assam.

Trade in salt to the amount of several lacs of rupees was carried on with Assam. A resident on the part of the Company was stationed on the confines of Rangamatty, at Gowalpara, and there was a chowkey or trade post on an island in the centre of the Brahmaputra, to which the Agent of the Assam Government, a Burooah, sent down his goods in boats, and got salt in return. The articles imported, were muggadhooties, or dhooties made out of the Assam moongah silk, stick-lac, cotton, pepper, and ivory. The merchants engaged, according to a list of 1780, were Lear, Dow, Williams, Rausch, Wheatland, Maccullum, and Bigger. Our mortuary returns show that Mr. Bigger died at Jugegopah, in Rangamatty, in that same year; and the names of Dow and Rausch occur in the following list of interlopers sent to Government in 1783, the first of a periodical series.

"*List of Europeans, not covenanted servants, of the Hon'ble Company, residing in the district of Rungpore.*

Mr. William Dow, merchant, has permission from the Hon'ble the Governor-General to carry on the trade at Jugegopah, commonly called the jars trade.

Mr. Daniel Rausch, a German agent for Mr. David Killican at Gowalpara, has no special permission.

Mr. John Marshall, a German clerk to Mr. Edward Ephraim Pote, commercial resident at Rungpore, has no particular permission.

Mr. John Taylor, agent for Mr. Daniel Rausch at Mogulhaut, has no particular permission. There is a Prussian, of the name of Christopher Poole, who was formerly a sergeant in the Hon'ble Company's service, but received his discharge; he has for many years resided at Maria, in pergunnah Bodah."

From particulars supplied on the requisition of the Collector, we further learn that Mr. Dow came out to India in 1773 with a relation, Colonel Dow, and, in addition to his Assam trade, he established a factory at Cowriegaon in this district, where he died in June 1788, aged about 40 years; and Mrs. Dow followed him to the grave in the following month, aged about 38 years.

Daniel Rausch, elsewhere called a Dane, came to India in 1766. An ecclesiastical return, forwarded for the register of the new church in Calcutta in 1787, contains an entry of one marriage, that of Mr. Rausch to Miss Mayo, at Rungpore in October 1782. He was killed during an expedition into Assam, according to Buchanan.

Christopher Poole was discharged from the army in 1775, after having served the Company fifteen years. He traded in timber and salt, and was murdered by dacoits in 1789.

To recur from this digression to the Assam trade, the Company ever and anon spread consternation in the merchant camp by farming out the trade as a monopoly. One formed in 1780; lasted three years, till the Directors revoked it on the strong representations of the merchants; but again, in 1787, they gave the salt trade to Mr. Hugh Baillie, the resident, with permission to the other merchants to trade in other things. Mr. Dow strongly protested and pointed out that as salt was the only article taken by the Assamese, the concession to trade in other merchandize was of no value. He laboured hard to prove that the trade was a losing one; and a balance sheet for the trade of one year (see Appendix A, No. 23,) gives a good view of the nature of the transactions carried on.

The frontiers in this direction were in a very disorganized state. Mr. Baillie, when Collector of Gowalpara in 1789, was attacked by a recalcitrant zemindar with a force of burkundazes, headed by an old Company's soubahdar; the town of Gowalpara and the factory warehouses were burnt, and one European and "several black people" were killed in repelling the attack.

The Assam Government was in the last stage of decrepitude. The brahmanising of the country had deprived the people of that fierce courage which had spread terror among the Mahommedans. There were constantly laid charges against the merchants of making raids into the country for recovery of their dues; these charges were in a great measure exaggerated, got up by one merchant against another, but "vagrant topasses or black Portuguese soldiers," adventurers from the North-West, Sikhs and others, who congregated here, afforded ready materials for such expeditions. Mr. Lear's hostilities with Assam in 1778, *vide* Mr. Hastings' letter, is one case in point; and on two occasions, in 1782 and 1791, charges were brought against Rausch of having invaded Assam; and in the latter instance, it was said he had taken the Rajah prisoner, killed many persons, and carried off property to the value of ten to twelve lacs of rupees. This accusation he refuted, ascribing its origin to the jealousy of the Greek merchants, Panioty and others; but if he had not plundered in person, he had, by countenancing one Krishna Narayan, precipitated matters in Assam, and necessitated the occupation of the country by British forces. The expedition into Assam, in which Rausch was killed, must have been subsequent to the one now referred to.

This Krishna Narayan was of the Cooch Behar family, and a descendant of that Ballit who held Durrung when the Mahommedans, in 1603 conquered Parikshit, his brother. Durrung, however, was included in that portion which the Assamese recovered from Meer Jumla; and Krishna Narayan's father had possessed both Durrung and Kamrup under the Assamese Government, but he had four years before been murdered with the concurrence of the Rajah of Assam or his officers, and the son was deprived of his patrimony. So Krishna Narayan, now 18 years

of age, gathered together 300 to 400 burkundazes, and with their aid recovered his estate; he defeated the Rajah's forces, and occupied Gowhatty, the Kamrup capital. The hope of plunder drew in other parties of adventurers, until our hero had a force of 3,000 burkundazes, which were more than he could control; and a season of anarchy prevailed. At length, on the application of the Assam Rajah to the Governor-General, Captain Welsh was, at the close of 1792, sent to restore order. He penetrated to Gowhatty without difficulty, and in January 1793 writes that a considerable revolution had taken place both in the system and the members of the Government: he does not specify what the revolution was. The burkundazes were sent back to draw their arrears of pay from the Rungpore treasury, and to be there discharged. Welsh was still at Gowhatty at the close of 1793, up to which time my researches have extended, and there I leave him.—(20-6-80), (16-6-83), (12-6-87), (26-8-91), (26-9-92).

APPENDIX A.

EXTRACT FROM RUNGPORE RECORDS.

No. 1.—See page 4.

Estimate of the number of Persons, Men, Women, and Children, resident in the Districts composing the Collectorship of Rungpore, 28th August 1789.

Pergunnahs.	Number of Men.	Numberof Women.	Number of Children, male and female.	Total number of Inhabitants.
Bhamundangah	4,998	5,212	1,550	11,790
Baussut	1 266	1,747	327	3,310
Bodah, &c.	21,966	24,351	10,385	57,702
Bykuntpore	5,935	6,250	2,136	14,321
Coondy, 14-15	14,774	11,721	10,618	36,513
Ditto, 1-5	1,036	968	1,035	3,039
Cazeerhaut	16,898	16,836	6,469	40,201
Futtehpore. 6...	9,016	8,802	1,574	19,392
Ditto, 3-2	2,960	2,965	777	6 702
Kanknea	14,437	13,302	5,799	33,588
Mantanah	4,613	4,287	3,216	12,116
Odasee	1,410	1,745	895	4,050
Pangah	1,159	1,555	1,023	437
Teppah	2,394	2,853	802	6,019
Behar	15,123	18,115	14,404	47,642
Bobonpore	1 724	1,873	1,129	4,726
Bullehar	515	400	300	1,215
Baherbund	24,009	19,088	12,453	55,550
Edrackpore	25,580	24,932	12 418	62,930
Plussbary	814	852	400	2,066
Sheekshehar	282	201	199	682
Sultainpore	89	107	61	257
Suroopore	17,015	11,093	4,486	32,594
	187,743	179,285	92,484	459,512

D. H. McDOWALL.
Collector.

No. 2.—See page 14.

Extracts from a civil case decided by the Collector of Rungpore, June 1778.

Proceedings in a cause wherein Fucker Chand and Hur Narain, Davypersaud and Alli Mahmud, are plaintiffs, for the right of the pergunnahs Boda, Pautgong, and Poorubbaug, and the Rajah of Cooch Behar and the Nazir Deo are defendants.

The Petition of Fucker Chand and Hur Narain Chowdries of Boda, and Davypersaud Chowdry of Pautgong, and Alli Mahmud Chowdry of Poorubbang.

Bodah, Pautgong, and Poorubbaug, were the zemindaries of our several forefathers. Nazir Santinarain obtained, by collusive means, the above pergunnahs in farm, and makes the collections. Our names are still used in the signature of all papers. The above farmer will not give us possession of our lands, but makes his bundobust with Government, and excludes us. We have always petitioned to have our lands ourselves. This year all the country is given in charge of the zemindars, who are allowed to make their collections themselves, but we have not yet had the good fortune to be allowed to do it. We pray to be admitted to the management of our lands in the same manner as the other zemindars are, and that Nazir Deo may not hold them in farm any longer.

Fucker Chand,
Hur Narain,
Davypersaud.
Alli Mahmud.
} Zemindars of Bodah.

Petition of Sanchurn Roy, Naib of the Rajah of Cooch Behar and of Nazir Deo.

Fucker Chand, Hur Narain, Davypersaud, and Alli Mahmud, have complained that my constituents obtained the farm of chuckla Bodah, Pautgong, and Poorubbaug, by undue means. This is false. The province of Cooch Behar is the rajahship of my constituents' family. The forces of the King of Delhi made incursions upon his lands, and took possession of the pergunnah Futtehpore and other places in the year 1094. On this account there was a war commenced between the King and the Rajah of Cooch Behar. Upon making peace the Subah of Gooragaut gave up one-fourth of the pergunnah Futtehpore to the Rajah, but afterwards again took possession of that fourth, and the war was re-commenced. In the year 1118, Alli Koolee Khan was subah of this country, and by authority of the King's firmans made this treaty with the Cooch Behar Rajah, that he should have in the name of Nazir Santinarain these three pergunnahs of Bodah, Pautgong, and Poorubbang, upon a naulbundee or tributary bundobust. From that time, now 66 years, my master has paid the revenues. When the province of Rungpore was made part of the royal territories, the subah was desirous of constituting the Nazir Deo zemindar thereof, or that he should appoint a person on his part to make the collections. But as my master was of the family of an independent Rajah, he refused to become a zemindar, and the subah put all the servants of the Rajah of Cooch Behar into possession of the lands of Rungpore, and made them the zemindars. I have to this time paid the malguzarry according to the treaty. Now all the country my master possesses is under the Company's authority. I make no demand

for any part of the Rungpore province, which was formerly (the whole of it) the property of the Rajahs of Cooch Behar, excepting those pergunnahs, *viz.*, Boda, Pautgong, and Poorubbaug, which were in fact continued in possession of my master, while independent of the Company, though zemindars were nominally appointed by the Subah of Gooragaut. If my constituent shall be deemed upon enquiry the lawful owner of these pergunnahs, I am ready to employ the petitioners, who are the descendants of my master's servants, in such manner as to give them a maintenance.

SAM CHURN ROY,
Naib of Cooch Behar and Boda.

The petitioners produce severally the following papers .....

.....

Davypersaud produces the following in support of his claim to Pautgong:—

A sunnud under the seal of Santinarain, then Nazir Deo, dated the 21st of Jaiti, Behar year 228, or Bengal year 1144, constituting Davypersaud Chowdry of Pautgong upon the death of his father, Hurdeo Chowdry. A perwannah under the seal of Santinarain, written on account of his house and effects being robbed, and mentioning Davypersaud as an old Chowdry, and directs Omur Roy, the uncle of the present Naib of Boda, who at that time was agent or naib of Santinarain, to take measures for the restoration of his effects, dated 6th May 229 Behar, or 1145 Bengal year.....

.....

Alli Mahmud produces the following in support of his claim to Poorubbaug:—

No. 1.

A sunnud under seal of Noorulla Khan, Phouzdar of Rungpore, on the part of King Allum Gheer, dated in the 35th year of the reign, the 5th of Jemmandissanny:

That "Jaun Mahmud Chowdry was appointed to the tehsil or collections of the zemindary of Poorubbaug; that he was to pay the revenues of Government, according to his kistbundee, to the aumil."

.....

.....

The canoongoe's naib, being called upon to produce the papers of Boda from the time of Zubberdust Khan to the time of Alli Koolee Khan, answers:—That there are papers in the office which will show the plaintiff's great grandfather to have been in possession of Boda at that time, but there are no accounts of the collections.

He produces a paper which has every appearance of authenticity, dated in the year 1114.

The purport of this paper is, that "one of the four partners of Boda, by name Joy Sing, failing to pay his revenues, his three-anna share of the zemindary of Boda was taken from him, and the jumma was divided among the other three—Ramnarain, Ramnaut, and Santanjeeb."

	Rs.	A.	P.	Ct.	Rs.	A.	P.	Ct.
The jumma tuckseem of the whole pergunnah ...					8,795	4	13	1
Deduct jumma of Nuzzerpore, forcibly possessed by the Phouzdar of Purneah					1,000	0	0	0
					7,795	4	13	1
Ramnarain Chowdry's share	3,410	6	19	1				
Ramnaut's share	1,461	9	18	0				
Santanjeeb's „	1,461	9	18	0				
Joy Sing's „	1,461	9	18	0				
					7,795	4	13	1

The canoongoe's naib further produces a paper dated in the year 1118, and is to the following purport:—"Ramnarain Chowdry's father's name is Benud, whose father's name is Sunker Chuckerbutty, of the caste of Rauree Brahmins. During the Rajah's having possession, Benud was the hessaubies, or accomptant and gomastah of the three pergunnahs. In the subahship of Zubberdust Khan, when reduced under the King, he was appointed Chowdry of the seven-anna division of the chucklah. Heretofore his house was in chucklah Cargyhaut, in talook Coochy amour. After this he came to Gomarra talook, in chucklah Boda. He now lives in Dungy Gram, six coss to the southward of Boda.

2nd.—Santanjeeb Chowdry is the son of Kunderp Koit, and grandson of Annunt Koit, by the father's side. During the Rajah's possession, Annunt was putwaree of Gooagunge: after his death, Kunderp, his son, was putwaree of Cadjuldiggy. When the King got possession in the subahship of Zubberdust Khan, he was appointed Chowdry of the three-anna division of Boda; but he dying, his son, Santanjeeb, was made Chowdry. Santanjeeb afterwards died: now his brother Gowree Ram Chowdry remains. His house is at the village of Alluckjerry, in Houlleepanjera, eight coss to the south-east of the chucklah. Dated in the year 1118.

3rd.—Joy Sing, three-anna partner, is the son of Ram Sing, who is the son of Monohur. During the Rajah's possession, Sree Ram Surmah was gomastah of Buttis Hazarry, the jagheer of Moydeb Cooar (explained a relation of the Rajah). Joy Sing was his servant. Sree Ram Surmah gave him the tehsildary of a toap (explained three or four villages). Sree Ram Surmah would not acknowledge the King. Zubberdust Khan, supposing Joy Sing to be his son, seized him. His house is at Julligram, in the pergunnah Nuzzerpore, now at Noorpore, in Sircar Panjera, at the village Santgram, eight coss to the southward of the chucklah. Dated in the year 1118.

4th.—Ramnaut Chowdry is the son of Munneeram, whose brother is Ramdun Surmah. In the time of the Rajah's possession, Ramdun Surmah was gomastah of pergunnah Gooagunge. After his death Ramnaut became the gomastah. When the King got possession,

in the time of Zubberdust Khan, he became Chowdry of three-anna share of chucklah Boda. His house was at Gomarreedowar, to the eastward of chucklah Boda. It now is at Dangee, pergunnah Saulbaree, six coss to the southward of the cutcherry.

The following paper is produced from the canoongoe's record relating to Pautgong, dated in the year 1114, being a tuckseen bundobust for that year:—

"Hurdeo Chowdry, whose security is Seetaram Chowdry; tuckseem jummah, Rs. 1,356-13-10." Also another paper dated 1118.

Hurdeo Surmah Barrundre lived formerly at Toosbanda, in chucklah Cargyhaut. He now lives at Pautgong. His father and grandfather's name will be enquired into, and afterwards written. These were also the Rajah's servants.

The canoongoe delivers the following paper relative to Poorubbaug, being also a tuckseem bundobust dated 1114:—

"Chucklah Poorubbaug and kismut Khalsah Dufta:—Jaun Mahmud Chowdry is the son of Shaik Jamaul, whose father is Shaik Harroo; tuckseem jummah, Rs. 43,569-8-2." Also the following paper dated 1118: In the chucklah Poorubbaug, Shaik Harroo, whose son is Shaik Jamaul, whose son is Shaik Jaun Mahmud, was a jamdarria (or head pyke) during the Rajah's possession. After this he was gomastah of a pergunnah. When the King got possession in the time of Eradut Khan, Hurnarain Roy, canoongoe, made him Chowdry. His former house was at Moypore. It is now at Moozygram, to the north of the cutcherry, nine coss.

List of the Phouzdars of Rungpore, according to the records of the canoongoe's office:—Eradut Khan was Phouzdar of Rungpore in the year 1094, Bengal. After him Noorulla Khan was appointed, and was subah from the Bengal year 1095 to the year 1100. Zubberdust Khan at that time was subah, and remained two years ten months, to the year 1102. Abrahim Khan was subah from that time to the year 1104. Sadaut Khan was then subah to the year 1105. Abdul Summud Khan succeeded him to the year 1106. Alli Koolee Khan was subah to the year 1118. Niamut Ullah Khan was then subah for two years, to the year 1120.

The canoongoe's naib produces a further paper from his office, which, he says, was found after a very long search. It is much torn and effaced, and is to the following purport:

Narrative of the Aumildars, and Phouzdars, and Naibs of Cooch Behar:—The Aumir Ulomrah, or ministers of the King, came here and took possession of some mehals of Cooch Behar; on which there was a long war in the country. After this Noorulla Khan was appointed phouzdar, and came here, and was some time engaged in the war. But his enemies proving more powerful, he could not keep possession, and under the chagrin of disappointment gave up his station. Zubberdust Khan was then appointed, and had the country granted to him as his jaghecr, in order to support the expense he should be put to, and he settled some of the lands. After this he was removed, and was sent to fight against Soba Sing. Abrahim Alli Khan was

then left phouzdar, and during the disturbances of Soba Sing the country was taken by Jagdeo and Bogdeo, who laid it waste that the ryots might not remain in it, to be an inducement to the King's troops to take it; on which the country remained uninhabited and uncultivated. After this Sadaut Khan and Abdul Summud Khan were phouzdars. Neither of them could obtain possession of these lands. As Jagdeo and Bogdeo were superior to them, they made some small collection in the jagheer. Jagdeo and Bogdeo took the rest, for which Syed Izzud Khan, dewan of the phouzdar, sent Davicknundon Rajah as aumil to Jagdeo and Bogdeo, but he could not obtain anything. In the time of Alli Koolee Khan, Rajah Joynarain and Roopnarain, the nephew of the Rajah, engaged Jagdeo and Bogdeo with their troops and killed Jagdeo, and Bogdeo died. Joynarain dying, Roopnarain became Rajah, and continued in office Soliman and Ressool Pattauns, who were in the service of Joynarain. For three years they contended against the phouzdar, when he cut off the two Pattauns. During these troubles he could get no possession, and the country remained deserted. The phouzdar, on account of the expense and the little means afforded him of supporting it, made peace with the Rajah Roopnarain, and allowed him to keep possession he had always had of Boda, Pautgong, and Poorubbaug. Alli Koolee Khan was afterwards removed, and Niamut Ullah Khan was appointed, whose naib, Shaik Yar Mahmud, came into the country with a large army and continued the terms allowed to the Rajah. But Shaik Yar Mahmud having a large army, and being obliged to make heavy collections to support it, the ryots all deserted, and the phouzdar sent in his room Afrasiab Beg, who died immediately after he had taken possession of his station. Mahmud Reza was soon after appointed naib, but he could not settle any jummah upon the lands. When Shaik Alli Izzut was appointed naib of Niamut Ullah Khan, he came to Gooragaut. Loll Beg was in the meantime appointed, and after a few days Shaik Alli Izzut came and began to settle the lands. At this time the king died; the changes in the administration, the usurpation of Khan Jehan Bandre, occasioned the Rajah's son again to take up arms, and prevented the naib from taking charge of his office.

The under-written paper has a superscription as follows:—

Abstract of the Narrative of the Rungpore District delivered to Ecram Khan.

That chucklah Boda, &c., is situated to the north-west of Rungpore, 39 coss. The borders of which are Behar, Moorung, Jullauss, Pharree, and the country of the Deb Rajah and Durrum Rajah, and have always been contended for by arms during the time of Abrahim Khan, Sadaut Khan, Abdul Summud Khan, Alli Koolee Khan, who never were able to take possession of them. But Alli Koolee Khan, unable to help himself, made peace with the Rajah of Cooch Behar, in the year 1118, and Nazir Santinarain, the brother of the Rajah became farmer of Boda, Pautgong, and Poorubbaug, which is his (serhud) border, and pays the revenues of it. Shaik Mahmud Alli, the naib of Niamut Ullah Khan, who understood the business of this

country, continued the farm according to the former settlement to the Nazir Santinarain, and received the revenues regularly from him. Rogoonundun Roy Mootsuddy, observing the terms of the peace, continued the bundobust of these chucklahs, and reducing the Serinjummy expenses of the sudder lower that formerly made the collections. If any one should demand more than his present settlement, the Rajah will give up the farms; and if he should make leagues with other enemies upon the borders and again come to battle, it would be out of his power to oppose them.

DECISION.—It certainly appears from the papers exhibited by the several claimants that they were esteemed in the light of the zemindars of the pergunnahs of Boda, Pautgong, and Poorubbaug; and that the customary ressoom from the pergunnahs was allotted to them by this Government, in the same manner as to all the other zemindars. Yet there is not sufficient authority to conclude that they ever once managed the lands under the Mogul Government, or ever were allowed to take possession by the Rajah of Cooch Behar, who contended for the space of twenty-four years against the arms of the King of Delhi. One bundobust paper of the year 1114, of the three pergunnahs, is to be found among the canoongoe's records, which only establishes that such a jummah was to have been paid; but no traces can be found, though diligently searched after, of any collections being made by the present claimants' forefathers, or paid to Government, but the Nazir Deo, the Rajah's brother, was allowed to hold them in farm, and then only a regular revenue was levied from them. The canoongoe's papers confirm a known fact, that persons who were appointed chowdries of these pergunnahs by the Mogul Government were the servants of the Rajah employed in his lands; that they were seized in the time of the troubles, and made to take on them, as far as the Rajah would permit, an office they were the most likely to be of service in, the settling of the lands. The Rajah's right and actual possession before the Bengal year 1094, when the Great Mogul sent a force to reduce Rungpore, is known and acknowledged. And the representation at the end of these proceedings appears to be a narrative given by the amlah here to some person deputed from the King. It is said that if more than what was stipulated to be paid by the Nazir Deo should be exacted, the Rajah would join with other enemies on the borders, and that his force would be superior to that of the Subah of Rungpore. Although there is no paper to corroborate the offer (mentioned by the Rajah's naib) to make the Nazir Deo zemindar of Boda, &c., yet, considering the power of the Rajah at that period, who was a sovereign Prince of a very large territory, and enabled to struggle so long a time against so great a monarch as the King of Delhi, it has an air of probability that an offer to create the Rajah's brother a zemindar, who must become of course a vassal, and subject to the person of whom he holds his lands, should be rejected, notwithstanding he accepted them in farm, himself living in his brother's territory independent of the subah, and always acting by a deputy or naib, who had possession of the lands, and was accountable to the Mogul Government for the revenue, and afterwards to ours. During

the space of the last sixty-six years, from the year 1118 to the present year, the neabut has been in the hands of the present naib's family. His authority in the pergunnah has been uncontrolled, and the persons who call themselves zemindars, never appear to have been admitted to any participation of the management, but have reaped a precarious subsistence from the ressoom, for it never has been regularly paid as appears from their frequent petitions and the orders they obtained for it. There cannot be a doubt that the Rajah of Cooch Behar is the original possessor of Boda, Pantgong, and Poorubbaug, and that his brother has had a continued, unmolested, possession under the title of farmer, and that the claimants who were set up in the time of the troubles never had any possession at all; and as the obstacle, namely, that pride which induced the Rajah's brother to refuse to hold the lands as a zemindar of this Government, is now removed by the Rajah's seeking and partaking of its protection, it is decreed that the Rajah of Cooch Behar is the right owner of the several disputed pergunnahs of Boda, Pantgong, and Poorubbang, and that he be accordingly continued in possession thereof.

No. 3.—See page 16.

Extracts from the Canoongoe's report to the Collector, October 1787.

There is no huckekut jummah of Rungpore amongst records of my office earlier than the Bengal year 1169, but I now shall state to you such particulars as I have been able to learn, concerning the settlement of the mehals of this district, previous to the time when the Company obtained the dewanny.

In the year 1147, Cassim Ally Khan gave a tawhud of 3,36,000 and odd rupees, and came to this place, and the jummah of the district was continued at that rate till the end of the Bengal year 1164; but in 1165, Sheikh Abdal Subha, who had been a servant to Cassim Ally Khan, and had been disgusted with him, went to Moorshedabad and told Meer Cassim that Rungpore was capable of yielding an increase, in consequence of which Meer Cassim agreed to give an increase of a lac of rupees; and having taken the district into his own charge, he arrived at this place in a short time afterwards. From that time till the end of the year 1168, there was annual increase laid upon the mehals, but the amount of the jummah was never realized.

In the year 1168, Dewan Sobah Chand gave a tawhud for 11,48,986-9-7-2, of which sum during the whole year he only collected 7,91,000-5-2 by his utmost exertions, so that a balance remained of 3,57,986-4-6-3; but the abstract account, without the particulars of this jummah, is alone amongst the records of my office. After this, the business of the pergunnah Fakkur Coondy was given in charge to Abed Ally Khan; and Dewan Sobah Chund went to Moorghai, in consequence of a summons which he received from the Nabob. In the beginning of the year 1169, Abed Ally Khan, that he might not lose his credit, granted a deduction on the revenue of 1168, and fixed the jummah at 11,29,324-1-18-2; but the ryots of Carjeehat having rebelled

from the severity of the collections, he was only able to realize 6,68,692-3-2. The Nabob Meer Cassim Khan was about this time defeated by the English troops at Oda Nullah, and the Nabob Jaffier Ally Khan having been appointed Nazim of the country of Bengal, arrived at the city of Moorshedabad. This Nabob was pleased to confer the office of subahdar of Rungpore upon Cassim Ally Khan, who formerly had given a tawhud for it in the time of his predecessor. He arrived in the month of Aghan 1170, and having considered the amount of the collections in the two former years, he made a hustabood of the district, and formed a jummah of 6,17,262-15-8-3. He afterwards, in the month of Bhadon 1171, went down to Moorshedabad with the writers, who had formed the hustabood papers, and obtained from the khalsah at that place a deduction of 1,51,411-11-7-2; and having made the settlement and given a tawhud for 4,65,851-4-1-1, he arrived at Rungpore and laid on an increase of Rs. 43,331-0-4-1 to defray his house expenses, and fixed the jummah at Rs. 5,09,182-4-5-2. Of this sum he collected only Rs. 4,87,882-9-19-2, and died in the month Bysack in the end of the year, when his death put a stop to the collections, and there remained a balance of Rs. 21,299-0-10-6.

.....

.....

In the year 1177 B.S., Mr. Gross began the hustabood, and having called for all the mofussil papers of the year 1176, he took the whole amount stated in them, as well that for which there were no resources as that for which there were, and formed the hustabood for 1178, as follows:—

ASSIL JUMMAH.		
No objections could be made to this article, but what arose from deductions in 1177, granted on account of desertion and for the encouragement of the ryots to return to their farms	.....	6,22,917 2 14 3
ABOOABS.		
CHOWT.		
As this is a tax which varies with the assul, whatever deductions were granted in that article in 1177 must have proportionably reduced the chowt ...	1,55,769 0 0 0	
SURUF SICCA.		
This tax, being of the same nature with the above, varies its amount according to the alteration in the assul	1,16,796 9 0 0	
ABOOABS.		
CUMMEE PHERANEE.		
This tax, being collected from the present ryots to make up for deficiencies occasioned by desertions, is an objectionable article	66,765 4 0 0	

MOKOOFEE JEREEB. In the year 1176, the ryots in some places agreed to give a salamy to the farmers in order to suspend the measurement of their lands: but this tax being only of one year's duration, is therefore an objectionable article	25,036 15 10 0		
MAHTOWL PALATUCKA. This article is of the same nature as pheranee above-mentioned, and therefore an objectionable article	41,728 4 10 0		
DURREE VILLA. This is a tax which increases in proportion to the diminution in the mofussil resources, and when the sudder jummah is increased, this article is oppressive on the ryots	2,08,353 11 9 0		
		6,14,450 11 9 0	
Gross hustabood jummah ...	.....	.....	12,37,367 14 3 3
After having formed the hustabood jummah, Mr. Gross granted the following deductions:—			
1st. On account of the talook Abeer Surdur, which was annexed to Dinagepore along with the pergunnah Payrahund..	1,008 7 12 0		
2nd. Rayut Rinya, or an allowance granted for the maintenance of ryots ...	47,669 14 7 3		
3rd. Ferary, &c., or deduction on account of desertions	41,123 4 18 2		
4th. Taikrar jummah, or jummah twice inserted in former accounts ...	3,382 7 16 3		
5th. Sirenjammy to the mofussil patwarries, &c.	83,610 14 11 0		
6th. Sirenjammy to the farmers ...	70,538 8 4 2		
7th. Sirenjammy to the canoongoe's office	7,757 0 4 2		
		2,55,090 6 15 0	
Remaining jummah ...	.....	.....	9,82,277 7 8 3
The above deductions were absolutely necessary; but no deduction was granted on account of the other objectionable articles contained in the hustabood papers. Mr. Gross then laid an increase on the above jummah, according to the following particulars:—			
TUNKEE BEESHEE. This is an improper article of the jummahs, being on account of the *Tuhreer ressoom salamy, &c.*, given by the ryots ...	30,587 0 0 0		
NUZUR ANDAZ BESHEE. This article is also improper, not being grounded on enquiry	81,960 0 0 0		
MUHTOWL PHOWEHDARRY. This tax was then a proper one, but has since been abolished	6,919 8 10 0		
Total increase ...	.....	.....	1,19,466 8 10 0
Total jummah, as per hustabood ...	.....	.....	11,01,743 15 18 0

Of the above jummah, the sum of Rs. 1,87,128-15-15-2 was not realized.

No. 4.—See page 16.

Account Jummah Wassil Bakee of the District of Rungpore, from the Bengal year 1169 *to* 1193 (A.D. 1762-1787), *composing a period of twenty-five years, as delivered in by the Canoongoes.*

Year.	Jumma.	Collected.	Balance.	Overplus.
1169	11,29,324 0 18 2	6,68,692 3 0 2	4,60,634 13 18 0	...
1170	6,17,262 15 8 3	5,93,531 7 9 0	23,731 7 19 3	...
1171	5,09,182 4 5 2	4,87,882 9 19 2	21,299 10 6 0	...
1172	7,83,313 12 12 3	6,96,752 1 10 2	86,561 11 2 1	...
1173	7,75,925 9 5 1	7,47,694 8 15 0	28,231 0 10 4	...
1174	7,80,105 9 8 3	6,47,650 5 10 0	1,32,455 3 18 3	...
1175	9,11,789 15 9 0	8,74,106 2 9 1	37,683 12 19 3	...
1176	8,57,372 1 5 2	8,32,418 0 8 0	24,954 0 17 2	...
1177	9,03,738 5 16 2	8,61,108 6 4 0	42,629 15 12 2	...
1178	11,01,743 15 18 3	9,14,615 0 3 2	1,87,128 15 15 2	...
1179	8,92,425 14 2 0	8,68,941 2 15 2	23,484 11 6 2	...
1180	9,76,138 2 12 0	7,85,129 11 1 0	2,71,008 7 11 0	...
1181	7,95,298 14 7 2	7,36,657 3 3 0	58,641 11 4 2	...
1182	8,01,903 13 0 0	7,99,013 9 11 1	2,890 3 8 3	...
1183	8,01,903 13 0 0	8,00,531 12 0 0	1,371 1 0 0	...
1184	7,92,529 6 14 3	7,90,165 14 14 3	2,363 8 0 0	...
1185	7,91,923 12 10 3	7,78,493 8 9 3	13,430 4 1 0	...
1186	7,91,923 12 10 2	7,73,221 7 8 2	18,702 5 2 1	...
1187	7,91,698 12 10 3	7,08,686 10 0 3	83,012 2 10 0	...
1188	9,47,188 8 15 1	8,32,605 1 10 2	1,14,583 7 4 3	...
1189	7,59,722 13 12 0	5,79,096 7 17 1	1,80,765 5 13 2	138 15 18 3
1190	6,30,079 7 13 2	6,30,079 7 13 2	...	...
1191	6,72,549 4 12 2	6,72,549 4 12 2	...	...
1192	7,70,503 14 15 3	7,53,294 14 5 1	17,209 0 10 2	...
1193	7,39,244 11 15 3	*7,39,244 11 15 3	...	...

* The whole of the sum here stated as collected, was paid into the Company's treasury, which was not the case in the former years, the zemindary akrajat, amounting to Rs. 21,149-2-16, having always been regularly disbursed. At the time of closing the accounts of 1193, there was a considerable balance due from the zemindars, who, to my certain knowledge, were enabled to liquidate it only by incurring debts, which are not yet discharged.

D. H. McDOWALL,
Collector.

RUNGPORE,
The 24th October 1787.

No. 5.—See page 30.

Account Demands, Receipts and Balances of Elephants deliverable by the Zemindar of Bijnee from 1182 *to* 1193, *Bengal style, being a period of twelve years, as delivered in by the Canoongoe of Rangamutty.*

Year.	Number of Elephants deliverable.	Number delivered.	Remaining due.	Established price of the Elephants.	Value of the Elephants according to the public records.	Value of the Elephants delivered.	Value of the Elephants remaining due by the Zemindars.
1182	68	21	47	88 14 4 2	5,998 7 8 1	2,644 2 0 0	3,354 5 8 1
1183	68	14	54	.....	5,998 7 8 1	1,249 7 3 0	4,749 0 5 1
1184	68	13	55	.....	5,998 7 8 1	1,150 8 8 2	4,847 14 19 3
1185	68	...	68	.....	5,998 7 8 1	5 0 0 0	5,993 7 8 3
1186	68	13	55	.....	5,998 7 8 1	1,150 8 8 2	4,847 14 19 3
1187	68	...	68	.....	5,998 7 8 1	.....	5,998 7 8 1
1188	68	...	68	.....	5,998 7 8 1	.....	5,998 7 8 1
1189	68	4	64	.....	5,998 7 8 1	355 8 17 0	5,612 14 11 1
1190	68	5	63	.....	5,998 7 8 1	444 7 2 2	5,554 0 5 3
1191	68	6	62	.....	5,998 7 8 1	533 5 7 0	5,465 2 1 1
1192	68	...	68	.....	5,998 7 8 1	.....	5,998 7 8 1
1193	68	14	54	.....	5,998 7 8 1	1,249 7 3 0	4,749 0 5 1
12	816	90	726	88 14 4 2	71,981 8 19 0	8,202 7 9 2	63,779 1 9 2

Account Demands, Receipts and Balances of Elephants deliverable by the Zemindar of Biddiagong from 1182 *to* 1193, *Bengal style, being a period of twelve years, as delivered in by the Canoongoe of Rangamatty.*

Year.	Number of Elephants deliverable.	Number delivered.	Remaining due.	Established price of the Elephants.	Value of the Elephants according to the public records.	Value of the Elephants delivered.	Value of the Elephants remaining due by the Zemindars.
1182	40	9	31	88 14 4 2	3,486 0 14 1	799 14 0 0	2,686 2 14 1
1183	40	11	29	.....	3,486 0 14 1	977 12 0 0	2,508 4 14 1
1184	40	2	38	.....	3,486 0 14 1	177 12 9 0	3,308 4 6 1
1185	40	10	30	.....	3,486 0 14 1	888 14 5 0	2,597 2 9 1
1186	40	4	36	.....	3,486 0 14 1	355 8 18 0	3,130 7 16 1
1187	40	4	36	.....	3,486 0 14 1	355 8 18 0	3,130 7 16 1
1188	40	.....	40	.....	3,486 0 14 1	.....	3,486 0 14 1
1189	40	.....	40	.....	3,486 0 14 1	.....	3,486 0 14 1
1190	40	.....	40	.....	3,486 0 14 1	.....	3,486 0 14 1
1191	40	3	37	.....	3,486 0 14 1	266 10 13 2	3,219 6 0 3
1192	40	.....	40	.....	3,486 0 14 1	.....	3,486 0 14 1
1193	40	.....	40	.....	3,486 0 14 1	.....	3,486 0 14 1
12	480	43	437	88 14 4 2	41,832 8 11 0	3,822 1 3 2	38,010 7 7 2

BOOLCHUND,

Canoongoe of Rangamatty.

Return of Elephants received from the Zemindar of Bijnee on account tribute due from him to the Hon'ble Company for 1193 *B.S.*

Elephants arrived at Rangamatty		13
Deduct died on the road from Rangamatty to Rungpore ...		2
		11
Deduct died at Rungpore		2
		9
Deduct sent back to Bijnee for the use of the kheddah, all the decoy elephants having died but one		2
		7

Sold at Rungpore at auction—

		Rs.
1	sold at	106
1	ditto	62
1	ditto	50
1	ditto	90
1	ditto	50
1	ditto	100
1	ditto	50
7	Total ..	508

E. E.

RUNGPORE,
The 2nd June 1787.

No. 6.—See page 17.

Mr. Purling's appointment as Collector, 1777.

To

MR. CHARLES PURLING.

SIR,

WE have this day thought proper to remove you from your seat in the Provincial Council of Dacca, and to appoint you to the charge and superintendency (*sic*) of the districts of Rungpore, and the other districts which were comprehended in the collectorship of Rungpore, when it was in your charge in the year 1773, except the nine-anna division of Goragaut. We direct you, therefore, to proceed thither to form the settlement of those districts independently of the Provincial Council of Dinagepore, and conformably to the general instructions lately sent to the Provincial Councils, of which we herewith transmit you a copy.

We direct you to correspond only with us on the business of the settlement, but that you do furnish the Provincial Council of Dinagepore with an account of the settlement and other papers relating to it when formed, that they may be entered in the general accounts of that division. You must also furnish them monthly with the

account of your collections and disbursements, and receive their orders for the disposal of the money which may remain in your hands, after deducting the latter.

We have given the necessary instructions to the Chief and Council of Dinagepore to deliver over to you the public papers of those districts, and to place the amlah or officers of the collections under your authority. Your allowance is to be sicca Rs. 1,500 per month, in lieu of all charges and contingent expenses whatever.

We are,

SIR,

Your most obedient servants,

WARREN HASTINGS.
J. CLAVERING.
RICHARD BARWELL.
P. FRANCIS.

FORT WILLIAM,
The 25th July 1777.

No. 7.—See page 22.

Report of Mr. Goodlad on the Insurrection of 1783.

To

DAVID ANDERSON, ESQ.,

President, &c., Gentlemen of the Committee of Revenue, Fort William.

GENTLEMEN,

SINCE I had the honor of addressing you on the 6th February, my time has been so taken up in endeavours to quell the unfortunate disturbances that broke out in this district, that I have not had leisure to write you so fully as the nature of the subject required. They being at length appeased, I sit down to lay before you the particulars of my conduct in this affair:—My situation for the month past has been a more critical one than ever any Collector yet was placed in. I have had a riot to quell, the most formidable that ever happened in Bengal. Had I adhered solely to the little authority invested in me, everything fatal was to be expected. The officers of the mofussil were murdered, wherever they could be found, and the whole authority of Government was entirely annihilated. Impelled by necessity, I have had to act entirely from the dictates of my own reason. The orders I have been obliged to issue, have been attended with the loss of many lives. This circumstance, though the consequence of absolute necessity, must still be repugnant to one's feelings: and when I came to consider the whole of what has happened, in consequence of the authority I have been obliged to assume, the situation of my mind till such time

as my conduct has undergone the most minute investigation can much better be conceived than expressed. I begin, therefore, my narrative from the first intimation I had of any disturbance, and continue it down to the time of its being appeased.

On 7th Maug, the farmer first sent me information of the insurrection, and requested I would grant him a military force in order to quell it; this I refused, as I judged the ryots would not rise without cause, and I should have deemed it cruel to have submitted them to military chastisement, without first hearing what they had to say. Instead, therefore, of complying with the request of the farmer, I wrote the ryots a perwannah, No. 1; they wrote me an answer, No. 2, and I replied to them, No. 3. In order to render this perwannah as efficacious as possible, I, on 15th of Maug, proclaimed by beat of *tomtom* throughout the town that nobody was to pay more for *the lands they cultivate* than the rate of 1187; and whoever demanded more, I would punish most severely. I also called on the zemindars and made them execute the mutchulka, No. 4, as this was everything a person in my situation could do. I had nothing left when I found these lenient measures ineffectual, but the application of military force. By this time the ryots had murdered Gour Mohun Chowdry and several of his people; they had divided themselves into bodies, some of whom went into Dinagepore in order to excite the ryots there to join them, while others went into different parts of Rungpore, where the ryots were yet peaceable, and compelled them to accompany them. They appointed among themselves a nabob and dewan, and all the necessary officers to a regular government; they levied a tax throughout the country, under the head of dhing-kurcha, to defray their expenses, and they came to the determination of extirpating the mofussil amlah wherever they could find them. The consequence was they were obliged to fly, to save their lives; the money therefore that was in the different cutcherries, together with the effects of the officers, became an easy prey to them, and the sweets of plunder, in addition to the spirit of revolt, made them more daring. The insurrection now put on the most formidable appearance, and I had every reason to fear that Dinagepore would be involved in the same calamity: I therefore collected a force as fast as I possibly could, and turned my whole attention towards preventing the insurrection from spreading there. This I was fortunately soon able to accomplish. I sent Lieutenant Macdonald to the westward frontier of the district. I directed him to hold out to the ryots the same terms as I had offered them, that those Busseyniahs who came in to him on his summons should be immediately pardoned, on promise of future good behaviour; that those who did not attend, he should send and burn their houses, and if any bodies attempted to oppose him, he should fire on them. After burning two or three of their houses, the rest of that part of the country came in to him, and everything on that side of the district was soon quieted. The parties whom I sent against those who had entered Dinagepore very soon settled all disturbances there, and, by leaving strong thannahs in such places as I deemed necessary, effectually prevented their breaking out again. Such prisoners as I apprehended,

I let go on promise of future good behaviour: indeed they did not appear to me culpable, for it was evident they had been forced into the insurrection by the ryots of Rungpore. A party of the insurgents, who kept to the northward, gave me more trouble than all the rest; for it is only within these few days I have been able to quell them. They surrounded the party I sent against them, and had I not reinforced them with a subadar and 30 sepoys, they had certainly been cut off. They shot one of my burkundazes, and on the .....a party then proceeded to the pergunnah Tepah, where they murdered the naib and seven or eight of his people. This last outrage had like to have been attended with a second general revolt. Those Busseyniahs whom Lieutenant Macdonald had before pardoned, encouraged by the spirited proceedings of this one remaining party, and the universal panic with which they had struck all the mofussil amlah, were again on the eve of taking up arms, it was then I was under the necessity of sending Lieutenant Macdonald the order, No 5. The assuming a power that affects life and death is never to be justified, but on the greatest emergencies. My situation, as I observed to you before, was the most critical that ever a Collector was placed in; the state of the country required the most active and vigorous exertions in order to quiet it. I had no time to wait for orders from my superiors; and had I ever given the insurgents an idea that I was deficient in authority to punish them, I never could have got the better of the insurrection. At the first appearance of any disturbance, I had tried everything that I possibly could devise to quiet it by lenient means; and I must so far observe that, had any real grievances been the cause of their rising, the measures I adopted had been effectual. Even after I sent Lieutenant Macdonald against them, I ordered him to pardon promiscuously whoever came in to him. I imagined the dread of the resentment of Government, for the outrages they had committed might still keep them in arms from a principle of self-defence; but when I found that lenient measures had no effect, that they still continued to murder the mofussil officers, and that the pardon they received only postponed the insurrection till they had another opportunity to break out, I thought it absolutely necessary to adopt a mode of severity that would strike a general terror, and I thought it could fall nowhere with so much justice as on those who should again revolt after having once received pardon. I therefore, harsh and repugnant as it was to my feelings, gave the foregoing order. One man only suffered from it, and I am convinced this one execution tended more to getting the better of the insurrection than all the battles I had with the insurgents; and though one poor wretch suffered in cool blood, I am confident in the end many lives were saved. See Lieutenant Macdonald's letters to me. On the 2nd Phaugun I received a letter from the insurgents, No. 7.

My answer to it is No. 8; but this had no effect, as I had ordered the different parties I sent against the ryots to proceed with the utmost vigor. Several battles ensued in consequence. On the 8th of Phaugun, the subadar, whom I sent to the northward, came up with a party who were on their march to burn Mogulhaut, when an engagement

ensued; the head man, named Nural Dine, who has assumed the title of Nabob, was wounded and taken prisoner, and his dewan, Dyah Seel, killed, together with four other ryots. Nural Dine died of his wounds two days afterwards. After this, the insurgents marched to the north-westwards, towards Patgong, where they were joined by a vast number of dacoits. Lieutenant Macdonald attacked them at different times, by which several were killed; and the last and decisive action was on the 22nd February. I enclose you Lieutenant Macdonald's letter to me, with the account of it, No. 9. By these means I at length appeased this dreadful riot. My conduct, Gentlemen, is now before you for decision. I can only say I have acted to the best of my judgment. I tried at first to quell it by lenient means; those failing, I was compelled to use force. Having considered these circumstances, I flatter myself, you will find it impossible for a person, situated as I was, to act with propriety in a different manner from what I did. I would endeavour to give you my opinion of these disturbances, but Mr. Paterson being deputed here for the purpose of investigating into them, you will receive satisfactory information from him. The district being at present perfectly quiet, without any apprehension of the disturbance again breaking out, and my health being much impaired, I request you will permit me to repair to the Presidency in order to the establishment of it.

I am,
Gentlemen,
Your most obdt. and hum. servant,

R. GOODLAD,
Collector.

RUNGPORE,
The March 1783.

(Enclosures 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, omitted.)

(Enclosure No. 2.)

We, the ryots of Cageerhaut, Futtehpore, Kankina, and Tepah, malgujardars, are ruined by the annual assessment of one anna and half an anna Durreevillah: we have given all we have towards paying our revenue, and have only our lives left; upon this for these two years have been levied on us five annas Durrivillah, and, setting aside the narainy currency, has imposed three annas batta on French arcot rupees. By these two articles, Har Ram Baboo, last year not being able to complete his engagements, notwithstading the manner in which he collected from the zemindars and ryots, is now in confinement. We then sold our cattle and the trinkets belonging to our women; we have since sold our children, and have nought left but our lives: upon that two annas increase has been put on the jumma of this year, and sezawals and tassildars were sent throughout the mofussil, who coming into the country, tied into bamboos, beat us with corahs, with fists, and put us to every

possible inconvenience: our beards were not left. By this we have sold and paid in everything we had to eat; there are no further assets for the revenue. The malguzarry of our Coochwarrah, in Ruugpore, is only from the tobacco crop, which is not ready till the month of Bysack; we have therefore come forth with our lives to live on the plains. At this time you sent a taaschynamah and a peon with Lallah Manick Chand and Najir Gomany; we thought they came to seize us, we therefore fled; and on hearing that Gour Mohun Chowdry was at Dimlah, we resolved to go to him, and getting him to protect us, enquire the reason why these people had come. With this intention we went to Dimlah. The said Chowdry had collected 250 sepoys and burkundazes, and three horsemen: one body of us went before, the other followed, those who went before received a fire, by which four ryots were killed and five wounded. By this means a great uproar took place, and it was not known what man struck another; we afterwards heard the Chowdry was killed. We came from Dimlah to Calpanny, when Lallah Manick Chand and the Najir gave us paun and delassah. We are ryots, you are chief—if the Durreevillah for two years is excused us, the narainy currency established, and the collections stopped for the two next months, we may return with satisfaction to our houses. You are head of our country—we have a thousand countries to go to; you are chief, we are ryots—you will therefore order us justice.

(Enclosure No. 6.)

To

RICHARD GOODLAD, Esq.

Sir,

In my public letter of yesterday I mentioned to you that I had a party in readiness to march, in consequence of an information I had of a Ding assembled to the northward of Surradooby. This party marched about 12 o'clock last night under the command of a jemadar, and with them Meerza Mahomed Tuckah with his burkundazes, and all the horsemen that were here. They came up with the Ding about dawn of day, who were very numerous, and the greater part of them armed with bows and arrows, lances and spears. As I advised the sepoys to disguise themselves over with white cloths, the Ding allowed them to come very nigh, taking them for burkundazes, whom they are not afraid of. The sepoys, when near enough, threw off the white cloth and fired about three rounds among them; then charged them with bayonets, as did the horsemen with their swords. A great many have been killed and wounded. The jemadar counted upwards of sixty dead on the plain, and fifty-six prisoners are arrived here; one prisoner died of his wounds on the road. I have not learnt as yet what leading men are among the slain or the prisoners. The greater part

of them are from Behar. Many of the Pautgong ryots are among the prisoners.

I have the honor to be,
SIR,
Your most obedient and humble servant,
A. MACDONALD, *Lieut.*,
Comdg. the Militia and Burkundazes attached to Rungpore.

CAMP AT CALPANY,
February 22nd, 1783.

No. 8.—See page 23.

Extract from the Collector's proceedings in the settlement of 1191, B.S.

RUNGPORE, THE 26TH MAY 1784.

At a Cutcherry present:—

MR. PETER MOORE ... ... *Collector.*
MR. W. R. AMHERST ... ... *Assistant.*

The dewan attending.

Resumed consideration of the proceedings on the settlement of the present year.

Bykuntpore.—The zemindary of Durrup Deo. The vakeel, Gopy Kant, attends according to the order of the 8th instant, to state his claim respecting Phalcotta, which he now does, amounting to ... ... Sicca Rs. 3,239

Ordered that the account be entered in the Cutcherry Sherishta.

The standard of the jummah of 1187 being taken, a regulation for the present year, the settlement of Bykuntpore, will stand as follows:—

Jummah of 1187	Rs.	28,334	8 0
Deduct rents of Cheerabundee, &c., made over to the Bhooteahs by order of Government ...	„	10,333	8 0
Jummah of 1190	„	18,001	0 0
Deduct rents of Phalcotta, &c., ceded to the Bhooteahs by order of Government, in Falgun last ...	„	3,239	0 0
Jummah of 1191	„	14,762	0 0

Ordered that Mirza Mahomed Tucky, his security, do execute the usual deeds.

Bamindangah.—The zemindary of Jugdysury, through her vakeel, Kissen Chand ...	Rs.	4,500	0 0
Muntennah.—The zemindary of Joydurga, through her Vakeel, Ram Jeboon	„	1,500	0 0

Carryhant.—The zemindary of Ram Kant, &c.; six zemindars. They have agreed to give the amount collected in 1187, which is an increase on last year's jummah of Rs. 7,356-12-3; they also make a request in writing, that as they are so many persons to prevent any possibility of the collections being impeded or interrupted by disputes amongst themselves as to who shall have the management, that Mohun Lall, whom they introduce, may be appointed sezawul on their parts for the general management: as he is their own election, and the proposition their own, the Collector informs them he can have no objection, and accedes to the appointment, declaring at the same time to them that he will hold them and their lands responsible for the income now agreed to. Mohun Lall is, in consequence, appointed.

Ordered that they do execute the necessary deeds accordingly.

Kankina.—The zemindary of Allick Nundah. Her agent having brought a request under her sign and seal, to both which, though a woman and a Hindoo, she is competent, that her settlement might be made in the name of Ram Rudder, her adopted son, and Ram Rudder, together with his gomastah, Rajbi Mohun Chowdry, having attended and agreed to an increase of the jummah of last year of Rs. 10,000.

Ordered they execute the usual deeds, and be allowed to depart into the Mofussil.

Bodah, Rs. 12,001.—The amlah on the part of the Ranee of Tannah, Behar, who has the management during the minority of Hurrendrenarain, the present Rajah, having attended and agreed to pay for the country for the present year the jummah of 1187, which is an increase on the jummah of last year of Rs. 12,001.

Ordered that they do execute the usual deeds accordingly.

Mhal Foujdary, Rs. 50.—Farmed by Jyhurry for Rs. 50—an increase on last year.

Haut Murteza Gunge, Rs. 1,000.—Admits of an increase of Rs. 1,000; it is already under attachment in charge of Punchanund Sezawul.

Coondy, 14 *annas* 15 *gundahs.*—The share of Rajichand, &c., through their agent, Gopaul Neogy.

Ditto, Re. 1-5 *annas.*—The talook of Joggernauth.

They both contend for a remission on last year's jummah, and Rajimohun Chowdry, superintending them in the double office of sezawuls, and security, declares that he was Rs. 4,700 out of pocket; they nevertheless agree to the jummah of 1187, on the Collector's promising them to represent the state of their case to the Presidency.

Ordered they do execute their deeds accordingly.

Ranganatty.—At the jummah of last year.

Thannah Behar.—The amlahs of the Ranee are ordered to execute their tahood in the usual form.

The settlement being thus concluded, there appears to be an increase of . .	Rs.	45,707	12	3	0
The decrease on Bykuntpore ..	„	3,239	0	0	0
The net increase is	Rs.	42,468	12	3	0

Ordered that the usual accounts be prepared and forwarded to Calcutta.

In consequence of orders issued on the foregoing arrangement, the Dewan having prepared the usual douls, kaboolcuts, and kistbundees, the several parties entrusted with the collections this year, as before specified, are required to execute them; and they execute them accordingly. The Collector then signs their aumulnamahs, and orders them to be delivered.

No. 9.—See page 25.

Letters of Mr. McDowall respecting the settlement of 1194, B.S.

To

JOHN SHORE, Esq.,

President, & Member of the Board of Revenue,

Fort William.

GENTLEMEN,—I have had the honor to receive your letter of the 4th instant, informing me that you conceive that there could have been no actual necessity for granting further suspensions to the zemindars, seeing that it was always in my power to have enforced payment according to the resources; that a new limitation of the current demands could not fail to raise in their minds an expectation of an entire remission of their balances, and induce them to exert every endeavour of local influence and deceit to establish, by fabricated materials, a claim to be released from all demands of the amount due from them; informing me also that the arrangement which I have made is, in your opinion, ill judged; that you therefore entirely disapprove of it, and shall hold me responsible for the further embarrassments and disappointments which it appears calculated to create in the realization of the revenue of this district.

It is at all times, gentlemen, a very mortifying circumstance to meet with the disapprobation of our superiors; but it must be doubly so when we are sensible that we have exerted ourselves to the utmost in the discharge of our duty. The business of the districts under my charge has, throughout the whole of this year, been involved in scenes of the most complicated difficulties, in the progress of which I have been obliged to adopt a variety of measures according as circumstances seemed to point out, but all of them tending, in my own humble opinion, to the interest of Government. In so far as that interest was compatible

with the welfare and prosperity of the district, I did flatter myself that, notwithstanding the loss which the Company are likely to sustain by the inundations, the attention which I have uniformly paid to the duties of my station, would have entitled me at least to a tacit approbation of my conduct; but as I have been disappointed in this sanguine expectation, I must teach myself to be less hasty for the future in indulging hopes of a similar nature.

I shall now proceed to state the reasons which induced me to grant a further suspension to the zemindars.

In the month of September last, when the zemindars required to be released from their engagements, and when the general distresses of the inhabitants rendered it necessary to suspend the demands for the revenue, ameens were appointed, on the part of Government, to ascertain, with the assistance of the canoongoe's officers, the actual resources of the districts, which measure you were pleased entirely to approve; and as I paid particular attention to the progress of the investigation, I have no reason to doubt but that those persons faithfully discharged their duty. The resources then having been ascertained by this investigation, the zemindars had no plea left for refusing to pay the amount which appeared to be forthcoming, and it only remained for me to take such precautions as were most likely to ensure the realization of it. The engagements which most of them had entered into at the beginning of the year, they had long considered as no further binding upon them than in proportion as the capacity of their districts might enable them to fulfil them, and I therefore thought it, in the first place, indispensably necessary to obtain from them unequivocal agreements for the amount of the revenue which had been ascertained, and secondly, to apportion the payment of that amount by new kistbundees.

Had I rejected the amounts brought in by the ameens, or declined to admit of their validity, insisting on an adherence to the former kistbundees, I should thereby have furnished the zemindars with a very plausible pretext for oppressing the ryots by undue exactions, to the great injury of the future resources of the district; and as they would avowedly have been held responsible for more than their lands were capable of yielding, they would not have failed to plead the consequent loss of credit with the merchants, who used to furnish them with temporary loans, and thus have evaded the payment of what I might have thought just and reasonable from the knowledge I had obtained of the capacity of their districts.

But, by the arrangement which I have judged it expedient to make, these inconveniences are avoided. The amount of business of every day furnishes abundance of proof that the remissions have been extended to the under-renters and ryots, and the immediate punishment of any act of oppression effectually secures them from undue exactions. The zemindars having obtained a suspension of the amount, which appeared to be deficient in the resources, their credit with the bankers is restored, and enables them to anticipate the Mofussil collections, and adhere, as nearly as can be expected, to the agreements into which they have entered; and if Government should be disposed to make a further

enquiry into the ability of the zemindars, a wassilaut of their districts may be made at the close of the year, when their lands will be held answerable for whatever may appear to have been collected from them.

With respect to the production of fabricated materials, this can only be attempted in those districts from which, in consequence of security being given, the officers of Government have been removed; and even in these instances I do not hazard much in asserting that frauds of this nature can rarely be practised on the officers of Government in a district subject as Rungpore is to an annual hustabood.

I have thus, gentlemen, had the honor to lay before you the reasons which induced me to adopt the measures which you have so severely condemned—a measure which appeared to me of such evident necessity that I should not have hesitated a moment in adopting it, even if it had not been sanctioned by your own express authority; but as your orders of the 24th August last empowered me in the most explicit terms to grant such further suspensions as might be indispensably necessary, and as I have never received intimation of those orders being revoked, I trust you will, after this explanation, be disposed to admit that I have not merited the whole of the very severe censure which you have been pleased to throw upon my conduct. In order to save the trouble of a reference, I shall here take the liberty of inserting a copy of your letter above quoted.

I have, &c., &c.,

D. H. McDOWALL,

Collector.

RUNGPORE,
The 19th February 1788.

To

JOHN SHORE, ESQ.,

President, & Members of the Board of Revenue,

Fort William.

GENTLEMEN,—I have had the honor to receive your letter of the 22nd March last, informing me,—that, admitting the inundations to have been more severely felt in my district than in others, still the Right Hon'ble the Governor-General in Council is by no means satisfied with the explanation I have given of the balances in my towjee account for the month of Poos, and that his Lordship shall expect a most particular account of the state of the district before he can accede to the expectation expressed by me, "that the collections will not appear to disadvantage,—" that his Lordship has been pleased to require from me a clear estimate of the losses of produce occasioned by the inundations and storms, together with a description of the nature of the settlement concluded by me, as well as of the difficulties which I have experienced

in the progress of it, and the measures I adopted to remove them; requiring also an account of settlement collections and balances to the end of the year, with a particular explanation of the latter, showing from whom they are due, and how far I can consider them recoverable.

The regularity with which I communicated to you, gentlemen, the variety of impediments which first obstructed the settlement, and afterwards put a stop to the collections of this district for the space of two months, induced me to think it the less necessary to recapitulate monthly in my towjee accounts the causes of the balances; but since the receipt of your letter abovementioned, I have been very full in my explanations, and I flatter myself they will not have proved unsatisfactory.

I shall now proceed to comply with the command of the Right Hon'ble the Governor-General in Council as above stated, and I hope the following account of the business of this district during the late most disastrous season will tend to convince his Lordship that, notwithstanding the heavy losses which have been sustained by the inundations, I have yet exerted myself to the utmost of my power in the faithful discharge of the duties of my station.

The revenues of this district for the Bengal year 1193 having been completely realized, I, on the 28th May 1787, entered upon the business of the new settlement for 1194.

RUNGPORE.

As the rains had set in with excessive violence on the 26th March, nearly three months before their usual time, and had almost totally destroyed the *Rabbi*, or first crop of the year, the zemindars positively refused to enter into engagements for the revenue, without receiving very large deductions; and on being desired to deliver in specific proposals, they separately presented their claims, amounting to nearly one-third of the annual revenue of their districts.

Vide my letter to the Board of Revenue, 19th June, with proceedings.

After a fruitless negotiation with the zemindars, in order to prevail on them to abate in their demands, which I thought highly exorbitant, I was under the disagreeable necessity of removing them from the management of their districts, which were in consequence committed to the charge of sezawuls appointed on the part of Government. But previous to my adopting so exceptionable a mode of collecting the revenues, I thought it expedient to advertise for farmers to deliver in proposals for renting the districts, thinking by this means to create a competition between them and the zemindars, which might ultimately enable me to settle with the latter on such terms as I could with propriety accept. In this expectation, however, I was disappointed; for such was the deplorable state of the country, that there was not a single proposal delivered in.

In the progress of the settlement under the management of the sezawuls, I soon found that the losses sustained by the inundation had in fact been very considerable, and I was therefore obliged to authorize suspensions to be granted to all the under-renters who were willing to enter into engagements.

Vide my letters to the Board of Revenue, the 6th and 29th July.

At this time (the latter end of June) the whole country was under water by the overflowing of the rivers, insomuch as to render the internal communication extremely difficult, and in many places impracticable, excepting by the means of boats. Most of the under-farmers of the preceding year either refused to renew engagements on any terms, or were as unreasonable in their demands for abatement as the zemindars had been, and many of them left the districts altogether, in order to avoid all further connection with their farms.

Vide my letter to the Board, the 1st August.

In this situation then, with the season fast elapsing, I saw with infinite concern that if the rains did not very speedily intermit, so as to afford the sezawuls an opportunity of expediting the settlement, the commencement of the collections would be delayed to a very late period, whereby the interests of Government might be deeply affected.

On weighing all these circumstances therefore, and considering that by the total exclusion of the zemindars,—a measure into which I had very reluctantly been forced, I should not only be deprived of their assistance in making the settlement, but invite their active opposition through every stage of it, from the hopes of their again getting possession of their districts on their own terms,—I at length determined to attempt a settlement of a mixed nature, securing on the one hand the services of the zemindars by making them responsible for a fixed sum, and preserving at the same time, through the means of sezawuls on the part of Government, such an authority in their respective districts as would enable me to detect any fabricated materials which they might be inclined to produce in support of their claims when the amount of their losses should come to be finally adjusted; but the objection which originally induced me to reject a settlement with the zemindars, *viz.*, their heavy claims for deductions, still existed, and it previously became necessary to make another trial to bring them to reason.

With this view, therefore, I first endeavoured to break the association into which they had seemingly entered for the purpose of reducing the revenue, and having by degrees contrived to detach them one from another, I found little difficulty in prevailing on them, one by one, to come forward with fresh proposals, which being much more reasonable than those which they had formerly delivered in, I thought it advisable to accede to them; and having suspended for future investigation a sum equal to one sixth-part of last year's jummah, the whole of the zemindars of Rungpore, excepting those of Carjyhaut, Kaukina, and Munthona, executed engagements for the remainder, voluntarily consenting to the continuation of the authority of the sezawuls for the purpose of

ascertaining by a local enquiry whether or not they were justly entitled to deductions for the sums suspended. The Rajah of Cooch Behar, who is also zemindar of Bodah, received a suspension of one-tenth part of the jummah of the latter district on the same conditions; but he has since agreed to pay the amount with the revenue of next year. The deductions which he granted to the ryots exceeded the sum deducted from the sudder jummah.

The above arrangement was completed about the latter end of July, previously to which time the weather had been extremely fine, and the waters having in a great measure subsided, the ryots were in all quarters diligently employed in the cultivation of the *khureeff* or latter crop, thereby affording a flattering prospect of recovering the losses which had been sustained by the former severity of the season; but on the 4th of August, the rains having returned with fresh violence, the rivers again overflowed their banks, and the country again exhibited the same scenes of distress which had before created so serious an alarm. During this inundation the waters rose to so great a height that the houses in the town of Rungpore were rendered habitable only by the means of platforms erected within them, upon which the people lived.

Vide my letter to the Board, the 10th August.

At this time the heavy instalments were just coming into demand, though the collections had scarcely commenced in the Mofussil, the zemindars having hitherto made their payments almost entirely by loans taken up from the bankers. But this resource now failed them, and as coercive measures would only have tended to increase their difficulties without being attended with any good consequence, I thought it expedient, instead of imprisoning their persons as enjoined by the regulations, to give them every possible encouragement to exert themselves in alleviating the distresses which now began to be felt with the greatest severity in every part of the district.

These last-mentioned floods had scarcely began to subside when they were succeeded by an inundation, which threatened to be much more destructive in its consequences than any of the former ones. The large river *Teesta*, a small branch of which formerly ran through this district in a south-east direction, about the latter end of August, suddenly altered its course, and leaving the Dinagepore river almost dry, forced its way in a most astonishing manner into the small branch abovementioned, where, not meeting with a channel sufficiently large, it overflowed the whole of this district, carrying with irresistible violence everything before it, and involving the inhabitants, with their cattle and houses, in one general wreck. Some time before the above event a scarcity of grain had begun very universally to prevail, but this last dreadful calamity, which seemed to forebode a total failure of the crops, produced in many parts of the district an actual famine, which carried off great numbers of the inhabitants. Those who were able to reach Rungpore were, for a considerable time, maintained by private charities, and afterwards by the bounty of Government, on whose account the sum of Rs. 2,053-5-14-3 was expended for

Vide my letter to the preparer of reports, September, and letters to the Board, 4th September 1787 and 3rd February 1788.

their relief, and I am sure I speak within bounds when I say, that by these aids upwards of 5,000 thousand people were saved from perishing for want of food. The zemindars, who had been prevailed on to enter into engagements, as mentioned in the former part of this address, having now lost all hope of being able to fulfil them, insisted on withdrawing themselves from every concern with their zemindaries during the present year: it was not but with much difficulty that they were prevailed upon to abandon this very extraordinary design. The petition which they delivered on this occasion, representing the state of their districts, accompanied my letter of the 4th September last, together with a copy of the regulations, which I then found it necessary to frame for the relief of all persons in any shape concerned with the revenue, which regulations you were pleased to inform me had met with your entire approbation.

In pursuance of the object of these regulations, the zemindars were permitted to proceed into their respective districts to promote and encourage the cultivation of the latter crops, from which alone, excepting in the highest grounds, I had to expect the realization of the revenues, and I declare it to be my most solemn opinion that, if the measure of suspending the collections at this period had not been adopted, the district would have sustained an injury by the desertion and the ruin of its inhabitants, which nothing but a length of time could have remedied.

From the period at which the above-mentioned regulations took place, until the conclusion of the investigation into the losses sustained by the inundations, all ranks of people were permitted to pay according to their actual ability, and the money collected in the Mofussil was brought direct into the Company's treasury through the means of sezawals, who, in conformity to the 4th article of the regulations, carried on at the same time, in concert with the officers of the canoongoes, their inquiries into the resources of the country.

During the progress of this investigation, I visited several parts of the district, where I had an opportunity of being an eye-witness of the dreadful effects of the inundation. Great numbers of the inhabitants, as I have before mentioned, perished by the famine, and wherever I appeared, multitudes of poor wretches flocked from all quarters to partake of such relief as it was in my power to administer to them. On these occasions I have frequently, on enquiring into their circumstances, found that out of a large family, who at the beginning of the season possessed numbers of cattle, many ploughs, and abundance of grain, only one miserable and emaciated wretch had remained to tell the fate of his friends. The loss of cattle, from the number of bones and carcasses scattered about the fields, appeared to have been prodigious, and will, I fear, be productive of considerable injury to the ensuing year's cultivation.

The investigation into the Mofussil resources had no sooner been completed, than the zemindars, who no longer considered themselves virtually bound by their former engagements, were required to enter into fresh agreements for the amount which appeared forthcoming from their respective districts. This they accordingly consented to do, and, in compliance with a promise which I had made them of recommending

their case to the attention of Government, I deducted from the jummahs such further sums as they appeared to be entitled to, they executing new engagements for the remainder. At the time this last settlement was concluded, nine months of the year had elapsed, but not more than one-third of the ascertained revenue had been realized. It therefore became necessary for me to act with as much vigor, as I had before shown moderation and lenity in making the collections; and having obtained new kistbundees from the zemindars for the amount due from them respectively, payable in the remaining three months, I have not since allowed them a moment's respite from the demands of Government.

The districts which had hitherto remained solely under management of sezawals, were also settled on the same principles with those which had continued in charge of the zemindars, excepting in the single instance of pergunnah Munthona, the revenue of which for last year was Rs. 34,379-15-12-2, of which sum there appeared a deficiency, by the investigation, of Rs. 13,279-3-13-1; and the zemindar having refused to undertake the management without a further deduction of Rs. 3,000, I judged it expedient to keep the district in the hands of the sezawal, who agreed to become responsible for the amount which appeared to be forthcoming, and he assures me the trifling balance still due will be completely realized.

The losses in pergunnah Punga being more considerable than those of any of the other districts, I beg leave to refer you for a particular account of the state of that district to my letter of the 3rd February last, and to my remarks on the towjee accounts for Falgun and Choit.

As the suspensions stated in the accompanying account have not yet been confirmed by Government, and as it appears from the Board's correspondence that they entertain hopes of yet being able to recover the amount, which I have not the most distant expectation of, I shall here state for their information the reasons from which I have formed this opinion.

The districts of Rungpore are all hustabood mehals, that is, they are subject to an annual increase or decrease according to the knowledge which may be obtained of their ability.

In the Bengal year 1190, immediately after the rebellion, deductions to a very large amount were granted in consequence of a Mofussil investigation, and in 1191 a reasonable proportion of these deductions was again brought into the jummah; but the large arbitrary increase laid upon the district in the succeeding year 1192 was much more than it could bear without distressing the country, and the zemindars were under a necessity of levying a variety of taxes upon the ryots in order to enable them to realize it. In 1193 the allowances to the zemindars were struck off, and they took this opportunity of renewing, with great earnestness, their complaints on account of the increase above-mentioned, sending vakeels to Calcutta to solicit redress. These complaints were not, however, attended to, and I was thereby enabled, though with much difficulty, to realize the whole of the revenue for 1193 by the 25th of May 1787.

From the above premises it is reasonable to infer that the profits to the zemindars on the jummah of 1193 could not have been considerable; and, indeed, from the indigent manner in which they all live, I am firmly persuaded that their zemindaries do not yield them more than what is absolutely necessary for the support of themselves and their families.

If it shall be supposed that the zemindars have reaped any benefit from the suspensions which have been granted, I believe I may, with great safety, venture to contradict such an opinion, because the settlement of the disputes between the zemindars and their farmers and ryots, respecting the deductions claimed by the latter, daily afford me the most incontestable proofs that the indulgence has been extended to all classes of people who are entitled to participate in it, and my letter of the 21st ultimo, respecting the ryots of Cargyhaut, mentions a very strong instance in support of this assertion.

If these reasons shall not prove sufficiently satisfactory to induce the Board to remit to the zemindars the sums which have been suspended on account of the severity of the season, I apprehend that the attachment of such private lands as they may be possessed of will prove very inadequate to the purpose of realizing the amount. The balances still remaining due on the ascertained revenue are explained in the accompanying account.

Before I proceed to mention the state of the other districts under my charge, it may not be improper to add in this place that the inundations which I have already described, however destructive in their consequences, were not the only calamities to which this quarter of the country was subjected during the late season. Just as the latter crops were getting into ear, there happened, on the 2nd November last, the most tremendous storm that ever had been known within the memory of the oldest men living in the district. In my letter of the above date giving an account of it, I expressed my apprehensions that it would be attended with very serious consequences; but as they did not materially affect the collections, I have not since had occasion to mention the subject .....

.....

Having thus, gentlemen, in compliance with the commands of the Right Hon'ble the Governor-General in Council, laid before you the state of the several districts of this zillah, wherein suspensions have been granted in consequence of the inundations, I have now only to express my hopes that if His Lordship, after being acquainted with the very extraordinary difficulties which, throughout the whole of the late year, I have had to contend with, shall be of opinion that those difficulties were not of sufficient magnitude to justify the second suspensions granted in the settled districts of Rungpore, I still trust His Lordship will be disposed to think that I was fully convinced of the necessity of the measure in order to remove the excuses of the zemindars, who are at all times but too ready to avail themselves of the smallest plea for withholding their revenue. The enclosed account of settlement collec-

tions and balances will afford every further explanation on this subject that may be necessary.

I have, &c.,

D. H. McDOWALL,
Collector.

RUNGPORE,
The 7th May 1788.

No. 10.—See page 27.

Mr. Goodlad's account of Baharbund.

Particulars of the zemindary of Baharbund, &c., Sircar Bengal Boom, as delivered by Durgah Persaud, canoongoe of the said pergunnah.

The pergunnah of Baharbund, Sircar Bengal Boom, was ever held as a jagheer. Chand Roy was the first zemindar ever appointed to it, and after him Rogunauth Roy. Upon Rogunauth Roy's death his wife, named Ranee Shetty Butty, succeeded him, and during her lifetime the zemindary was taken from her and given to Rajah Ram Kaunt, in whose life it was given as a jagheer to the Nawab Syed Ahmed Khan Solut Zung, and included in the collections of Purneah. The sheristah of the zemindary remained in the name of the Rajah. After the Rajah's death the zemindary came to Ranee Bowanny, who procured a sunnud for it in the name of Rajah Rogunauth who had married her daughter. Upon his death the zemindary came under Moorshedabad as the jagheer of the Nawab Nudjeem Ula Doulat Syed Nudjabut Ali Khan Bahadur. At first the name of Ranee Bowanny remained to the zemindary, but afterwards for a short time Rajah Goury Persaud was appointed zemindar, but it again reverted to Ranee Bowanny. When the Company came in possession of the dewanny, from the beginning of the year 1176 to the end of the year 1178, it was given in farm to Gunnessam Sircar, and the revenue was paid at Moorshedabad into the khalsa. In the year 1179 the mehal was included in the collectorship of Rungpore, and given in farm for five years to Bissen Churn Nundy, and remained with him to the end of the year 1180; and in the year 1181 the Company granted a sunnud for it to Lookenauth Nundy, in whose hands it now remains.

The canoongoe has not been able to furnish me with any dates but to those circumstances that are very recent.

R. GOODLAD,
Collector.

No 11.—See page 28.

Baharbund permanent lease, from the proceedings of the Collector, 1787.

The amlah of Baharbund deliver in a copy of their istumrarce sunnud, which is translated as follows:—

Copy of a perwannah with the seal of the Company, &c., and bearing an English signature:

Be it known to the mutsuddies employed in business, to the aumils present and to come, and to the canoongoes of pergunnah Baharbund, the zemindary of Lookenauth Nundy, in Sircar Bengal Boom, &c., the chukla of Currybarce, dependent on the Subah of Bengal, that, according to the order of the Governor-General in Council, the jummah of the aforesaid pergunnah is unchangeably fixed from the beginning of the year 1186, at the yearly sum of Sicca Rs. 82,639, being the amount of the collections made by the Collector of Rungpore, when the mehals were khass, in the Bengal years 1184 and 1185, according to the following particulars; and they must consider the revenue of the aforesaid pergunnah to be unchangeably fixed, and receive the stated amount from the said Lookenauth Nundy; and they must make no demands on account of any expenses or increase of revenue, nor must they every year demand a new sunnud from him. The greatest attention must be paid to this order.

Particulars, three mehals.—

1*st.*—Pergunnah Baharbund, entirely in Sircar Bengal Boom.
2*nd.*—Pergunnah Batebund ditto ditto.
3*rd.*— Ditto Gowallbaree entirely in Sircar Dhigree.

Fixed jummah Sicca Rs. 82,639—

According to year collections	1184	...	80,525
Increase collected in	1185	...	2,114
	Sicca Rs.	...	82,639

Dated 3rd September 1779 or 3rd Bhadon Bengal year 1186, or 21st Shabun, 21st year of the king's reign.

(A true translation)

JAMES GRAHAM,
Assistant Rungpore.

No. 12.—See page 29.

Mr. Goodlad's account of Edrakpore.

Particulars of the zemindary of Edrakpore.

I have endeavoured all that lay in my power to find out the particulars relating to Edrakpore, but there are no kind of records to which I can refer, and the zemindar either does not possess or will not produce the history of his house. Whatever information I have procured, I obtained from him with great trouble, and it is so very vague that I am almost ashamed to send it.

The first zemindar there is an account of is Rajah Rajender, but in what year he held the zemindary, or during whose reign, there is no account; his successors were Rajah Baggernit, Rajah Norruttun, Rajah Kishend Dulal, Rajah Neankishen, Rajah Sham Kishore, Rajah Bowanny Kaunt. Rajah Durgah Kaunt, Rajah Durgah Persaud, Rajah Ram Dulal, Rajah Goperrammun, Rajah Omer Kaunt, Rajah Gourhurry, Rajah Kishenunder and Rajah Ergondber: all these people, if they ever did exist, are no further recorded than merely by name.

Rajah Ergondber was succeeded by his son Rajah Bhaugwan, who was an idiot; his dewan was also of the same name, who availing himself of his master's weakness went to Dacca, where the Subah then resided, claimed the zemindary as his own right, and by bribing the Subah turned out the lawful possessor. A long dispute ensued, which at length ended in the division of the zemindary, the lawful possessor having nine annas and the usurper seven, which seven annas are now part of the zemindary of Dinagepore. It is very remarkable that, in a circumstance where one-half of the inheritance was done away, neither the zemindar nor his officers are able to tell me the name of the Subah in whose time the event took place.

Rajah Bhaugwan was succeeded by his son Rajah Munhari, and in the reign of Sham Sujah, a man named Madu Sing obtained possession of five of the remaining nine annas of the zemindary. This obliged the zemindar to repair to Delhi for justice, and a firman was obtained from the Emperor Aurungzebe, dated the 11th year of his reign, turning out Madu Sing, and giving the zemindary to Rajah Rogunauth, the son of Rajah Munhari. This is the only document I have been able to obtain. On perusing the copy of the firman I was surprised to find the division of the seven annas confirmed, which, I think, would hardly have been the case, had the fact been as represented to me by the zemindar, and which for want of better information I have been obliged to insert. In the zeman of the firman I find the zemindary was much larger than it is at present, and that the pergunnah of Coondy which is now in Rungpore, the pergunnah of Soroopore which belongs to Rajsheer, and pergunnah Pludsy which is now in Dinagepore, were all subordinate to this zemindary, but the officers here cannot tell me when they were separated. Rajah Rogunauth was succeeded by his son Rajah Ramminauth, whose son, Rajah Hurrinauth, succeeded him, and in whose name there is another firman confirming him in his zemindary, dated the 17th year of the reign of Aurungzebe. I can obtain no further particulars than that the last-named zemindar was succeeded by his son Rajah Bessinauth, and who was also succeeded by his son Rajah Sheenauth, father of the present possessor, Rajah Gournauth.

It is a great pity that no records have been kept of the circumstances relating to this district; it has once been a place of great importance, and the ruins of Gooragaut, which are all of brick and stone, are many miles in length, but now overgrown with jungle and inhabited only by wild beasts.

Tradition says it was the seat of Government till the Emperor Jehaugheer removed it to Dacca, and I am informed that the records of

of the khalsa or those of the sudder canoongoe will show that the Sircar of Gooragaut from the districts subordinate to it once paid a revenue of ninety lakhs of rupees.

R. GOODLAD,
Collector.

No. 13.—See page 29.

Letter of Mr. Goodlad regarding the Dinagepore estate.

To

DAVID ANDERSON, Esq.,
President, &c., Gentlemen of the Committee of Revenue,
FORT WILLIAM.

GENTLEMEN.—IN consequence of your letter of 10th September, I proceeded to Dinagepore, and immediately, in conjunction with the dewan, commenced an investigation into the expenses of the zemindars. From the enclosed account, No. 1, you will perceive that they amounted to the enormous monthly sum of Rs. 16,016-3-18—an expense which, had not Government interfered, would have accumulated so heavy a debt by the time the zemindar came of age, that it could not have been liquidated during the remainder of his life; the other accounts that accompany this, are only the particulars of the account No. 1. The retrenchments that have been made will, I hope, meet with your approbation, and the increase in the article of Mofussil amlah be deemed necessary to preserve the zemindary sherishtah in proper order. The small increase of Rs. 170 per month, which I made to the mother and wife of Kaunt Nanth, the late Rajah's brother, I esteemed an act of humanity, considering the very distressed state in which they have been kept for some years past. It appeared to me during this investigation that it was the design of the zemindary amlah to bring up the young Rajah in the utmost state of ignorance possible. On examining their accounts you will not meet with the smallest establishment either for moonshees, mohurirs, or any one person to instruct him; and in the only article in which a little expense was required, for retaining a proper sudder and Mofussil amlah in order to keep up the zemindary sheristah, by which means only the zemindar, when he came of age, could acquire a thorough knowledge of his country, for this article there was no provision the least adequate to the charge.

There are in the Rajbaree seven or eight elephants, near forty horses, and a number of camels: these I deem an unnecessary charge, and I would recommend to the gentlemen of the Committee to have the greatest part of them sold, and the amount appropriated to the payment of the Rajah's debt, and retain only such a number as are requisite for form's sake, but for this I wait your order. I cannot conclude without taking the liberty to recommend to you, gentlemen, never to permit the zemindary amlah to have anything to do either in the management of the

household or instruction of the young Rajah; and that till such time as he is of age to take charge of his zemindary the person on the part of Government at Dinagepore have the entire superintendence. If this is done, and the establishment I have now the honor to lay before you is approved of, the Rajah, when he comes of age, will find his affairs in a most prosperous situation; and if those who have the management of his education do their duty, he will by that time have acquired such a knowledge of business as will prevent his falling a prey to the rapacity of his amlah.

I am, &c.,

RICHARD GOODLAD,

Collector.

RUNGPORE,
The 22nd October 1781.

No. 14.—See page 43.

Extract from Mr. John Eliot's report to the Board respecting Sanyasis, September 1789.

Three years' residence in these districts has given me opportunities of hearing many things of the conduct of these Sanyasies, which I take the liberty of stating to your Board.

They call themselves fakeers, merchants and ryots, but their real profession is that of usury, and having the command of cash, they let it out at interest, some in the most artful manner to escape the law. They give a sum, suppose Rs. 40, which is put into the borrower's hands in the presence of witnesses, and a note taken at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum, payable in a month; but prior to this the party wanting the money agrees to give a ducour (*sic*) for lending the money: this is generally one quarter of the sum, *viz.*, Rs. 10. He also keeps in pay a peon or burkundaz at the rate of Rs. 8 or 6 per month, to see that he does not run away; so that in the end the man only gets one-half of the sum he borrows. Others let out their money from one to six and a half per cent. per mensem, but this is a trifle, considering the consequences. The man shortly after may go and pay the money borrowed, when behold, he has a further charge for the drawing of the note, ducour to the mohurir, short weight, batta, shroffing, and takoorbarce charge: a new note is drawn out for all these additional charges, so that it becomes a debt of eternity from father to son. At the stated times the interest is demanded. If he has no cash, his child is confined to oblige him to pay the money, and sometimes sold; and as delay in payment is made, so is torture executed on the child, though not so as to leave the mark on the skin, but by keeping the child from food, putting it out in the rain or, in the cold season, in the dew all night, or putting it in the stocks or in irons. I never went into a Sanyasi's house, but I saw in the middle of the compound a large pair of stocks.

The petty Sanyasis, who cannot oppose a zemindar or a gomastah, assemble apart, and take an opportunity to carry him or both on the water, and there confine them till payment is made in part, and security given for the rest; and also until the expense of the people who were assisting in their confinement is defrayed. Some zemindars on these occasions give up a part of their zemindaree to these usurers in the following manner:—The Sanyasi agrees to pay a fixed revenue yearly upon having the villages for a certain number of years, and to cancel his own debt from supposed profits, but in reality by mulcting the ryots and seizing their grain.

Others again have akrahs (place of residence), where they keep up a force of two or three hundred of their own sect, who go boldly to the cutcherry and demand the money lent, seize whatever revenue may be at hand, and if not sufficient to discharge their demand, carry off the naib or zemindar or some of the amlah by way of security till they are satisfied.

Complaints of the daring acts and cruelties of these Sanyasis must have frequently reached the Collectors of these districts, if these people had not contrived by arts, threatenings, and severities to suppress them. The complainants themselves told me, in excuse for not applying for justice and relief, that the Collectors' distance was too great for them to bear the expense; that the Sanyasis, if they learnt that they were absent with an intention of complaining, would seize and maltreat their families, from whom, besides, they could not remain so long absent as to give time for summoning witnesses. In short, they always added, I am a poor man, it was a debt of my fathers, and though I have paid it twice or thrice over, yet I cannot afford to go so far from my family for justice.

No. 15.—See page 45.

Proclamation regarding the outbreak at Benares, 1781.

FORT WILLIAM, *3rd October* 1781.

The daring and unexampled treachery of Rajah Cheit Sing to our Governor-General at Benares on the 16th August last, and the outrageous cruelty of the said Rajah to those officers and sepoys of the Company over whom chance gave him an advantage, are too notorious to be particularly related in this proclamation.

But it is the duty of this Government to declare to all those who are dependent upon, or connected with, their administration that they are unanimously and most firmly resolved to punish in the most exemplary manner acts of such rebellion towards the Company, and of such insult to the honor of the whole English nation.

From the time that the English were obliged to send forces to this country, under Colonel Clive, to punish those Nawabs who had unjustly attacked and murdered the peaceable servants of the Company, or, in other words, from the time the English took upon them, in their own defence, the administration of these provinces, the Company and the

whole English nation had but one wish, and their orders to their representatives were continually "*that they should act with justice to every rank of people in this country.*"

It is well known how the laws of England protect even the lowest against those who are highest in power, and it is further well known that the Company, and at length the Parliament and King of England, have endeavoured to bestow upon every native of this country, under their protection, the same security that an Englishman possesses in England.

It was in the true spirit of these noble intentions of the Company and the whole English nation that the present Governor-General was selected to be at the head of their affairs in these provinces; for it was well known that he was beloved by the natives, that he respected their laws and their customs, and spoke their language, and that he was an enemy to all oppression.

One strong proof of his possessing such proper dispositions was testified to the present Rajah Cheit Sing, who derived his whole power as Rajah from the generosity and intercession of the Governor-General at Benares in 1773.

In that year it is well known that when Mr. Hastings settled the Treaty of Benares with the late Vizier, the Nawab Suja ul Dowla, it was with the utmost difficulty and as a great favor that he obtained from the said Vizier Nawab the sunnud that constituted Cheit Sing Rajah of Benares. This act of goodness he did from his respect for the memory of the former Rajah Bulwan Sing, and in hopes that Cheit Sing would ever show himself grateful to the Company.

Upon the same principles of justice, when the late Vizier in 1776 ceded the zemindary of Benares to the Company, the rights held under the Nawab, his former sovereign, by the Rajah, were not only continued to him by the Governor-General under the government of the Company, but new rights were conferred upon him—rights which gave him extraordinary power. These were the possession of the fort of Juanpore, the coinage of the mint, and the duties of the kotwalli.

The whole of these grants were settled upon the Rajah Cheit Sing with every testimony of the confidence of this Government. But how deep has been his ingratitude to his benefactor, how unwarrantable his rebellion against the Company.

And what must be the resentment of the Company and of the whole English nation, when they hear that a Rajah so favoured by them attempted the life, and cut off the followers, of that very Governor-General who had been to him the channel of their favor, and who, hearing of his foolish attempts at independence, had trusted himself with a slender guard in Benares, hoping by his personal influence to recal the Rajah to his duty, and to get him to assist the Company in the present war—a war very expensive to the Company, but which in its operation kept the dominions of the Rajah in peace and prosperity. But when the Company and the natives are given to understand further, that the said Rajah has attempted by presents and promises to foment distrust and disaffection among other zemindars dependent upon the Company, their wonted mercy can have no excuse. Their orders must

be strong and unalterable to punish in the severest manner such examples of ingratitude and disaffection, and at the same time to reward with the fullest favor those zemindars and others dependent upon our Government who show their steadiness and attachment upon the present occasion.

It will be observed at the same time by our superiors that, if the Governor-General had been even harsh and unjust in his conduct to Cheit Sing, that Rajah ought to have submitted peaceably, and to have awaited the justice of the Company, who have, to the knowledge of all Hindostan, done more than justice to other Rajahs, whom they supposed to have been too severely punished by their servants, as in the case of the present Rajah of Tanjore.

It is in this manner that the Company and the English nation will judge of the conduct of Cheit Sing, and issue their orders accordingly.

In the same spirit of justice we, their representatives, issue this proclamation, and declare in the most solemn manner to all the Rajahs, zemindars, landholders, and others dependent upon our authority, that we shall never sheath the sword till justice is done to the honor of the Company and that of all England, attached in the person of their Governor-General.

And, further, we take this opportunity to declare with equal truth and solemnity to all the Rajahs, zemindars, landholders, and others dependent upon our authority, that we never shall, while we manage the affairs of this country, permit the faith of the Company to be broken to any person, nor permit any of our servants or agents to commit oppression or make unjust exactions of revenue.

The English, renowned over the earth for their good faith, have upon that principle towards their friends, as well as from their bravery against their enemies, become the most powerful nation in the universe; and we, as their representatives in these provinces, should be unworthy of our situation if we were less ready to support and reward the fidelity of those attached to our Government, than to punish those who attempt to insult it.

By order of the Hon'ble the Governor-General in Council.

No. 16.—See page 45.

ADDRESS OF THE RUNGPORE ZEMINDARS REGARDING THE ADMINISTRATION OF WARREN HASTINGS, 1788.

Translation of an address from the zemindars, &c., in the Pergunnah of Fukercoondy, &c., in the district of Rungpore, to Mr. McDowall, Collector.

We, the zemindars, chowdries, and canoongoe of the pergunnah of Fukercoondy, and of the pergunnah of Coondy in the district of Rungpore, having heard that Warren Hastings, the late Governor-General, has fallen under the displeasure of the gentlemen in Europe from an accusation of having treated us with cruelty and oppression, and of

having extorted from us by fraud or by force sums of money to the ruin and desolation of the Company's dominions; this matter has been misrepresented to the Government. We are perfectly satisfied with, and unfeignedly thankful for, the justice and moderation of the abovementioned gentleman's administration. We think that, having heard of a report totally void of foundation, were we to neglect to give a true state of the case, it might tend to our condemnation at the day of judgment. We therefore lay before you a paper which we have voluntarily drawn up as a testimony of our satisfaction in the mildness of his government, and we hope you will send it to the gentlemen in Calcutta, to be forwarded to the gentlemen in Europe, as we deem this to be essential to our welfare at the last day.

Signed by the zemindars of Rungpore in number sixteen, as also by the canoongoe.

(A true translation.)

JAMES GRAHAM,
Assistant, Rungpore.

No. 17.—See page 47.

GUNGARAM TEPA'S LETTER TO CAPTAIN ALEXANDER, MARCH 1786.

Translation of a letter from Gungaram Tepa, addressed to the zemindar employed on the part of the Company at Cossimgunge.

Your letter is arrived, and I am acquainted with its contents: it is written that I have killed 12 men, have forcibly carried off 100 men, women, and children, with 500 head of cattle, and many effects; that in consequence you mean to put me in confinement and carry me before the presence of the Company. This may be done, but on that day you will see what colour will be produced when iron is beat against iron. I am not like the fumes of the poppy that ascend and dissipate, neither am I like unto a cucumber to be taken and eaten. (*Quotation*).—"I hold the bridle and will not turn out of my road. I will sacrifice my head or seize your crown." There has ever been a firm connection and friendship between the Company and Nepaul. I now hear from idle report that they wish to wage war with me. Very well, I am prepared; nevertheless my enemies are Durrup Deo, Mahadeo Sirdar, *and Munseram.* They are allowed protection in your country; if you will give them up to me, I will then release the people demanded. Further, there have been violently taken from my country 600 cows, 500 buffaloes and bullocks, with other things, such as musk, satins, 40 muskets, 50 tulwars, and 30 large goats. It is for you to replace these things, otherwise I shall take you prisoner and carry you to Nepaul. Take this as a truth, consider it urgent, and attend to it well.

No. 18.—See page 15.

Letter from the Bhootan Subahs regarding the succession to Bijnee, November 1791.

Translation of a letter from the Cherung Subah on the part of the Deb Rajah to Lieutenant Crump, Commanding a Detachment from the 6th Battalion of Native Infantry at Jaghigapa.

After compliments this is the news:—When Rajah Hurry Deb Narrain was killed, according to the orders of the Deb Maha Rajah, I went to Bijnee to investigate the fact. No respectable persons at Bijnee could relate the particulars of his murder; they were therefore asked whom they wished to have as Rajah, and replied, that the late Rajah had no children, but that the Nazir Coor was his brother, whom they wished to succeed him. On hearing this, the Deb Rajah gave a sunnud and siropa to Mohinder Narrain, Nazir Coor, and established him in the office. No one man hinted that Hurry Deb Narrain had a son, nor did I ever hear any such assertion. I now hear that Hurry Deb Narain had a son. 'Tis well. If such is the case, why did not the amlah write me so. Had they done so, the settlement would certainly have been thus made. I now hear that the Bijnee Nawab and Chaudry* have seized and carried away the Rajah, and that they have seized all the horses, chests and other property of the time of Rajah Sheeb Narrain and since, and have also disgraced the Rajah's wives. You are a servant of the Chaudry, and the distributor of justice on the part of the Governor, but there is no distinction between the Deb Rajah and the Company; they are one, as you know. Who creates such disputes I cannot tell. Bijnee is not within the Company's territories; it has always been the property of the Deb Rajah, with which you are also probably acquainted. I cannot tell whether you gave orders for seizing and plundering the Rajah, whether the orders came from the Huzzoor, or whether the Nawab and Chaudry did so of their own authority. This is not my fault, but you will be acquainted with the facts from the representation of your own people. I claim justice from the Council and from the Company. If you will send back the Rajah and his property, do so. If not, it will be a crime should there be any delay in this respect; there is no crime in the Company's plundering the zemindars and ryots of the Deb Rajah. Let an answer be speedily sent. I shall then certainly plunder the zemindars, putwaries and ryots, &c., of the talooks, and then carry them into the hills. Be assured of this, and you must answer for it to the Company and to the Governor-General. You will be unable to fix the crime on me. I again call for justice on the Company. If there is any crime in acting this, then let the Rajah of Bijnee and his property be speedily sent to the Khellah at Bijnee. All the respectable persons in Bijnee, including the Dewan and Buxy, conspired to murder Rajah Hurry Deb Narrain, and now they wish to charge this fact upon the Nazir Coor. When it is enquired into according

* By the Nawab the writer means the sezawal stationed on the part of Government in Thannah Rangamatty, whom he means by the term. Chaudry is not so clear.

to justice, it will be found that even the Nawab was concerned. By examining the old Dewans Ghema Burrooa and Bul Burrooa, in the presence of the Deity, all this will come to light. Perhaps some orders in writing on this subject may exist. This is certainly known to the Deb Rajah, and his messengers are ready to set out. Let an answer be speedily written. Burrahazary, Bootealmaray, Khoologaut and Adabarry have been attached by you. This is no crime, but if you do not send back the Bijnee Rajah with his property, I shall sweep away all the people and cattle even in those districts, and whether I can convey them or not to the hills you shall afterwards see. Let an answer be speedily sent to this letter. Dated the 20th Assin 1200.

Translation of a letter from the Jumpie Subah to the Havildar and Sepoys stationed at Bijnee for the protection of the place.

After compliments, I have heard that you are come to seize the Rajah of Bijnee; what is this? The Bijnee Rajah is a dependent both on Bhootan and on the Company. The deceased Rajah having been killed, and no one being found capable of business, the Deb Rajah sending for his brother, Mohinder Narrain Coor, and finding that he was a son of a Rajah, gave him the khillut and buxees of Rajah, and appointed him to that station according to ancient custom. The Company and the Deb Rajah are one; the Deb Rajah does not object to the Company's proceedings, and as he appointed Rajah Mohinder Narrain Coor, the Company will comfirm him. This is a matter of course. These disputes are created by low persons at the Sudder and in the Mofussil. It is a small matter, and may be soon settled. While you remain there, the ryots will be alarmed and desert the country, and if they quit it will be greatly injured, nor will the business of the Company or the Deb Rajah go on properly. If this is represented to the Deb Rajah, he will be displeased. It is a trifling business, and therefore I have made no representation to him. You must certainly remove. If listening to the advice of low people you continue where you are, you will be in fault and must answer for it. Know this from me. Dated 16th Kartick in the year 282.

No. 19.—See page 26.

Comparative Statement of the quantity of Paddy and Rice to be obtained for a Rupee in the years noted below.

Months	Paddy.			Dearest Rice.					Cheapest Rice.				
	A. D. 1785-1786, B. S. 1192.	A. D. 1786-1787, B. S. 1193.	A. D. 1787-1788, B. S. 1194.	A. D. 1785-1786, B. S. 1192.	A. D. 1786-1787, B. S. 1193.	A. D. 1787-1788, B. S. 1194.	A. D. 1866-1867, B. S. 1278.	A. D. 1871-1872, B. S. 1278.	A. D. 1785-1786, B. S. 1192.	A. D. 1786-1787, B. S. 1193.	A. D. 1787-1788, B. S. 1194.	A. D. 1866-1867, B. S. 1273.	A. D. 1871-1872, B. S. 1278.
	M. S. C.	M. S. C.	M. S. C.	M. S. C.	M. S. C.	M. S. C.	M. S. C.	M. S. C.	M. S. C.	M. S. C.	M. S. C.	M. S. C.	M. S. C.
Baisakh ...	3 1 12	3 2 12	2 35 0	0 16 0	0 27 4	0 25 12	0 13 0	0 15 0	1 20 8	1 24 5	1 29 0	0 16 0	0 22 8
Shrabun ...	3 21 8	4 22 8	2 0 14	0 19 0	0 26 4	0 17 1	0 10 0	0 16 0	1 27 3	2 12 13	0 39 5	0 11 0	0 24 0
Kartick ...	3 24 12	4 15 0	1 20 3	0 20 0	0 28 4	0 18 4	0 8 8	0 16 0	1 25 13	2 3 1	0 33 6	0 13 5	0 29 12
Magh ...	4 9 0	5 5 0	1 20 6	0 29 8	0 28 12	0 19 0	0 11 12	0 15 0	2 12 4	2 13 2	0 36 11	0 13 5	0 25 14

No. 20.—See page 34.

Average charges attending the collection of the revenues in the district of Rungpore:—

Sudder Charges.

	Per cent. on the sudder jummah.	
Interest on money borrowed in by the zemindars to enable them to anticipate the Mofussil collections	2 4 12 0	
Allowances to the gomastahs, naibs, mohurrirs and other sudder officers ...	5 4 1 0	
Mofussil peons placed over the zemindars and their officers to enforce payment of the revenue and obedience to the orders of Government	0 10 13 0	
Cutcherry expenses including buildings, papers, ink, pens, mats, oil, &c., contingencies ...	0 15 12 0	
Total Sudder Charges ...	...	9 2 18 0

Mofussil Charges.

Allowances to putwarries	2 6 2 2	
A putwarry is the principal officer of a village on the part of the zemindar or farmer, who keeps all the accounts and collects the revenue.		
Allowances to busseyniahs	2 4 19 0	
The care of the village is entirely under the busseyniah. It is his particular province to bring back deserted ryots or to find others to occupy the lands. He also regulates the rents of the ryots, and affords them protection against any injustice on the part of the putwarry. The office is elective, and the ryots may confer it on whom they please: but before they can change a busseyniah, they must obtain the permission of the zemindar or farmer, which is rarely refused.		
Allowances to halmangees	1 14 5 0	
The halmangee is a very useful officer. When the village or talook is large, it is divided into girds or divisions, and there is a halmangee to each division, whose business it is to be acquainted with everything that is done in it. He must know the name of every man in his division, and what profession he follows; also the exact boundaries of it, and the quantity of ground in the possession of each individual ryot.		

Allowances to surdars	0	5	12	0
The surdar is a revenue officer, who is constantly in attendance at the Mofussil cutcherry to carry into execution the orders of the patwarry. He has under him a certain number of pykes, according to the extent of the village.				
Pykes	0	15	15	0
The pykes are employed under the surdars in summoning the ryots and in enforcing payment of the revenues.				
Arindahs	0	7	17	0
The arindahs are employed in attending treasure for one place to another, and in carrying letters, &c.				
Tokedars	0	15	15	0
A tokedar is an officer stationed by the zemindar in lands which are *khas* or unfarmed. In this case all the other officers are under his control.				
Ameens	0	5	19	0
Ameens are deputed on contingent services in settling disputes, and occasionally to measure the lands of refractory ryots.				
Mofussil peons	0	8	5	0
This expense is incurred in enforcing payment of the revenues from tokedars, patwarries, &c.				
Ink, paper, pens, oil, &c.	0	3	12	0
Total Mofussil charges			10	8 2 0
Total average ditto			19	11 0 0

Rungpore.

No. 21.—See page 46.

Establishment of the Rungpore Collectorship (1781).

	Sicca Rs.	French Arcots.
Charges, Collections.		
The Collector	1,200 0 0 0	
House rent	300 0 0 0	
Total Sicca Rs. ...	1,500 0 0 0 or	1,638 12 0 0
Assistant, salary, house rent, &c. ...	600 0 0 0 or	655 8 0 0
Surgeon	300 0 0 0	
House rent	60 0 0 0	
Total Sicca Rs. ...	360 0 0 0 or	393 4 16 0
DEWAN'S OFFICE—		
Dewan	150 0 0 0	
Sheristadar	40 0 0 0	
2 Persian Mohurrirs	60 0 0 0	
4 Moonshees	50 0 0 0	
4 Dufterbunds	11 4 0 0	
Jemadars and Hurcurrahs	60 0 0 0	
		371 4 0 0
TREASURY OFFICE—		
1 Cazanchy	40 0 0 0	
2 Mohurrirs	35 0 0 0	
1 Poddar	10 0 0 0	
1 Purky	10 0 0 0	
		95 0 0 0
TASSIL OFFICE—		
Tassildar	50 0 0 0	
2 Persian Mohurrirs	35 0 0 0	
		85 0 0 0
Kotwally Establishment	.....	100 0 0 0
French Arcot Rs. ...	.....	3,338 12 16 0
Deduct Batta 9¼ per cent. ...	.....	282 11 1 0
Total Charges, Collections, per month, Sicca Rs.	.....	3,056 1 15 0
Charges, Zemindary.		
Nuncar Zemindars, per annum, Sicca Rs. ...	19,358 8 3 0 or per men.	1,613 3 7 0
Charges General.		
Cutcherry contingent charges	.....	100 0 0 0
Diet to prisoners, estimated at per month ...	.....	200 0 0 0
Charges for transporting treasure and hoondian ...	.....	400 0 0 0
Premium on killing tigers (each head) ...	.....	10 0 0 0
Total Charges General, per month, Sicca Rs. ...	.....	710 0 0 0
Charges, Poolbundee.		
Charges, Poolbundee, per annum Sicca Rs. 600, or per month	.....	50 0 0 0
Abstract.	Per month.	Per annum.
Charges, Collections ... ... Sicca Rs.	3,056 1 15 0 or	36,673 5 0 0
Charges, Zemindary ... ... ,,	1,613 3 7 0 ,,	19,358 8 4 0
Charges General ... ... ,,	710 0 0 0 ,,	8,520 0 0 0
Charges, Poolbundee ... ... ,,	50 0 0 0 ,,	600 0 0 0
Total Sicca Rs. ...	5,429 5 2 0 or	65,151 13 4 0

No. 22.—See page 46.

Establishment of the Zillah Adawlut at Rungpore (1793.)

		Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
	Judge and Magistrate, per annum, Sicca Rs. 26,000, or per month	2,166 10 8		
	Registrar	500 0 0		
	Surgeon	400 0 0		
	Rent of a Court	150 0 0		
			3,216 10 8	
	Clerks.			
1	Portuguese Writer	75 0 0		
1	Native „	50 0 0		
			125 0 0	
	Dewanny Department.			
1	Moulvy	100 0 0		
1	Pundit	60 0 0		
1	Sheristadar	100 0 0		
4	Bengal Mohurrirs @ 25 each	100 0 0		
3	Persian „ „ 25 „	75 0 0		
1	Moonshee	50 0 0		
1	Mullah	5 0 0		
1	Brahmin	5 0 6		
1	Doctor	10 0 0		
1	Nazir	25 0 0		
1	Naib	15 0 0		
25	Peons, @ 4 Rs. per month	100 0 0		
1	Mirdah	10 0 0		
1	Bheesty	4 0 0		
1	Mehter	3 0 0		
	Paper, pens, and ink	30 0 0		
			692 0 0	
	Fouzdary Department.			
	Mohurrirs and Akrajaut	150 0 0		
1	Jemuldar	20 0 0		
20	Chuprassees	80 0 0		
1	Mirdah	25 0 0		
36	Burkandazes	90 0 0		
1	Tubbah	20 0 0		
1	Tazeemburdar	4 0 0		
1	Jellaud	4 0 0		
1	Goricund	4 0 0		
			397 0 0	
	Kotwal and Pykes.	.....	100 0 0	
	For Apprehending Dacoits.			
80	Burkandazes	320 0 0		
4	Gurdwars	60 0 0		
4	Mohurrirs	20 0 0		
16	Pykes	40 0 0		
			440 0 0	
	Total Sicca Rupees ...	.....	.....	4,970 10 8

No. 23.

Dr. *A Statement of the Trade with*

		Sicca Rupees.	
To Salt 60,000 maunds of 82 Sicca weight; prime cost at Culnah, at a medium rate, 2-4-4 Sicca Rupees per 100 Co.'s maunds.			
Sicca Rupees ...	146,400 0 0	.....	
Freight for transporting the above to Gowalparah at Rs. 45 per 100 maunds	27,000 0 0		
		173,400 0 0	
To a Factory which will cost Sicca Rupees ...	.....	30,000 0 0	
„ Factory charges for one year at least ...	.....	15,000 0 0	
„ Mr. Baillie, the Agent's salary for one year probably	.....	18,000 0 0	
„ Charges of merchandize in transporting the returns received from Assam to Calcutta ...	.....	6,000 0 0	
Sicca Rupees ...	.....	242,400 0 0	
To Interest on the above for one year at 10 per cent. per annum is	.....	24,240 0 0	
Sicca Rupees ...	.....	266,640 0 0	
Batta 16 per cent. ...	.....	42,662 0 0	
Current Rupees ...	.....	.....	309,302 0 0

N.B.—This statement does not include the very

—See page 53.

Assam, as it is at present, for one year (1787.) *Cr.*

				Maunds.		Arcot Rupees.		
By Salt of 82 sicca weight ... ... which reduced to 93 sicca weight, the weight the Assammees purchase at is only maunds ...	52,903	9	0	60,000	0	0		
Deduct wastage in transporting ditto, which is at least 3 per cent.	1,587	9	0					
Maunds ...	51.316	0	0					
At 4 A. Rs. per Maund ...				.....		205,264	0	0
This sum to be paid from Assam as follows, *vis.*—				Arcot Rupees.				
In Muggadooties, 2,225 maunds, at 60 A. Rs. per maund is...				178,000	0	0		
which at 4¼ double Cordge per maund makes 10,568¾ double Cordge, the current price at Calcutta is 18 Sicca Rupees per double Cordge this will produce a profit on 178,000 A. Rs. of—				.....		26,329	0	0
In Stick Lac, maunds 4,001 @ 4 A. Rs.				16.004				
Cotton „ 1.450 „ 4 „				5,800				
Pepper „ 201 „ 20 „				4.020				
Ivory „ 32 „ 45 „				1,440				
				27.264	0	0		
Arcot Rupees ...				205,264	0	0		
Advance on the above articles on an average taken at the highest sale never exceeds 25 per cent., or...				.....		6,816	0	0
Arcot Rupees ...				.....		238,409	0	0
Deduct Government and Company's duties, 5 per cent.				11.920	0	0		
Deduct Commission on the sales, 5 per cent. ...				11,920	0	0		
						23,840	0	0
Arcot Rupees ...				.....		274,569	0	0
Batta 8 per cent. ...				.....		17,165	8	0
							231,734	8 0
By Factory remaining Sicca Rs. 30,000, or Current Rupees				.....		.....	34,000	0 0
Current Rupees ...				.....		.....	266,534	8 0
By loss on the Concern in one year ...				.....		.....	42,767	8 0
Current Rupees ...				.....		.....	309,302	0 0

great risks of the river in transporting the goods.

No. 24.—See page 48.

List and Estimate of Articles of Importation from Nepaul to Bengal, and those exported from thence to Nepaul.

Imports.

Gold, wrought and unwrought	...	40,000
Silver	...	15,000
Copper	...	7,000
Brass Plates	...	3,000
Iron	...	2,000
Spices, Brich, Bark for Hooka-snakes, &c.	...	4,000
Chiretta, a bitter herb ...	...	500
Beekmah, a poisonous drug ...	...	500
Meetah, &c., ditto ...	...	500
Jajun, a kind of coarse cloth ...	...	500
Juttumungsey, a drug ...	...	1,000
Cotton of Nepaul	...	5,000
Sohaga, borax	...	5,000
Wax	...	5,000
Saul Timbers	...	10,000
Munzeet, a drug	...	5,000
Lák	...	5,000
	...	1,09,000

Exports.

Coral Beads	...	10,000
Ornaments, Jewels	...	20,000
White Cloth, &c.	...	5,000
Silk, Silk and Cloths, &c. ...	...	7,000
Tobacco, soorutic	...	10,000
Goor, molasses	...	2,000
Brazil Sugar	...	1,000
Salt	...	10,000
Betelnut	...	3,000
Chulpee, &c., kind of courass ...	...	2,000
Ginger	...	1,000
Lák, in its crude stick... ...	...	1,000
Chaok	...	2,000
Long Pepper	...	2,000
Boglepoor Soossees	...	5,000
Silk	...	10,000
Cloves	...	2,000
Nutmegs, &c.	...	4,000
Cloth Puttoos	...	10,000
	...	1,07,000

RUNGPORE,
22*nd July* 1791.

No. 25.—See page 48.

Account of Nepaul given by a very intelligent person, who was sent into the country (disguised as a fakeer) by the Collector of Rungpore, in consequence of a report that the Nepaul government was collecting together a large army. This person left Rungpore in March, and returned in July 1786.

Government. The kingdom of Nepaul is governed by Rajahs, who seem to be despotic princes.

The present Rajah, Rund Bahadur Shah, succeeded his father when he was about three or four years old; he is now a very comely youth, about twelve, and a lineal descendant of the eighth generation from Rajah Ram Shah, who possessed the government many years ago.

The Rajah's residence is generally at *Catmandoo*, where he has a palace, adjoining to which is the treasury and artillery park. The present Rajah's uncle, *Behadur Shah*, transacts all the affairs of government; and the men principally entrusted by him are—*Runsom Parri*, *Juggut Parri*, *Rundyut Parri*, and *Damodur Parri*, who are said to be very well informed and capable in business; but though he takes their opinions on all occasions, he always decides upon his own judgment. He never had the most distant idea of breaking with the English. On the contrary, he wishes to strengthen and cement the friendship which subsists between the Rajah and the Company.

Army. The army of Nepaul consists of thirty thousand men, of which nine or ten thousand are burkundazes, and the remainder are armed with swords, excepting thirty-two companies of sepoys, each company consisting of from 120 to 240 men; the whole amounting to about six thousand. Most of their firearms were made at Catmandoo, though they have some English muskets, which are said to have fallen into their hands at the time Cossim Ally Khan was overcome and obliged to quit Nepaul. The soldiers are all inhabitants of the hilly country, except three hundred, who are natives of Hindoostan, and are distributed amongst the different corps in the proportion of five or six to each. *Zeher Sing* holds the appointment of paymaster to the army; he has, however, nothing of the office but the name, as the troops receive, instead of money, jagheers, which are settled at the rate of from one to five rupees per month each man. The exercise of the troops is altogether different from that of Hindoostan, and they are so much attached to their own mode, that they decline the use of any other, though they have people among them who are capable of instructing them. The present Rajah does not wish to increase the number of men in the army, but has ordered a corps of six hundred sepoys, from 13 to 14 years of age, to be raised for his own *swarry*.* Two hundred and fifty have been already levied, and the remainder are to be enlisted as soon as possible. The two best companies of sepoys, which consist of two hundred and forty men each, are commanded by two subadars, named *Hans Munny Howas* and *Budder Sing*, who are of short statures and dark complexions, but

* Train or suite. It is more than probable that the raising of this corps gave rise to the report of the government collecting an army.

very strong and active officers. The thirty-two companies of sepoys are stationed as follow, *viz.*:—

2 companies at Catmandoo, to take care of the treasury.
6 ditto for the Rajah's swarry.
13 ditto sent to the eastward, to the banks of the Gunduck, against the hill Rajahs.
5 ditto at Beejackpore, &c.
1 company at Nerrajhurree.
1 ditto at Muckwanpore.
4 companies sent into different parts of the country.

Of the above companies, twenty-two were raised many years ago; the remainder were formed by the present Rajah and his father.

Artillery.

The artillery of Nepaul is said to consist of twenty-four serviceable guns; the person who gives this account saw six of them, from four to six pounders, in readiness for the field, and was told that there were eighteen others at the treasury adjoining to the Rajah's house. There are also two unserviceable guns at Nyakote, four at Goorkah, seven in Patun, four in Pautgong, and one (unfinished) at Nerrajhurree

Connections.

* A. D. 1786.

The Rajah keeps up no correspondence with any of the hill Rajahs, except *Mahadutt Sem*, the Rajah of *Palpah* whose daughter of thirteen years of age he married in the month of Maugh 1192. He also corresponds with Scindia, to whom he lately sent a vakeel with presents of chowrees, salgrams (a kind of small round stone worshipped by the Hindoos), pods of musk, &c. This vakeel, whose name is *Bubudder*, is a Brahmin of the Augunhottery tribe, born near Lucknow, and was formerly sent with presents to Scindia, from whom he brought some in return. There is another vakeel who once went with presents to Assoph ul Dowlah.

Revenues.

The revenues of Nepaul, exclusive of all jagheers, are said to amount to twenty lakhs of Patna sicca rupees per annum. Seven lakhs are collected from *Turrannee*, three for the customs on the Booteah border; two lakhs and fifty thousand are produced from the gold mines; fifty thousand from those of copper, iron, lead, brimstone, &c.; two lakhs are collected from the district of Nepaul, and five lakhs from the hilly country, possessed till lately by the other hill Rajahs. The person who gives the account was informed by Raj Gooroo, the Rajah's private priest, that the ready money in the treasury does not amount to less than three or four crores of rupees.

Mines.

The gold mines, which are generally farmed, are near *Rowee*, *Ledawk*, and *Dugurchi*, where the farmer causes the gold to be wrought, unless he can sell it unwrought, at the mines; but when the mines happen not to be let, all the gold is

carried in its crude state to Catmandoo, where it is wrought, and either sold or made up into plates, jewels, and ornaments for the Rajah. The gold is not produced from ore, but is collected from a particular kind of brown sand, which is found under rocks and stones on the sides of the hills. Besides the gold mines, there are some of copper, lead, &c.

Nature of the country.

Nepaul is of great extent, and is quite surrounded by very high hills, of which those on the north side are the most lofty. The soil is of all different kinds, well cultivated, and producing in plenty every kind of grain, as wheat, barley peas, rice, &c., which are rather dear owing to the number of inhabitants. The face of the external country is very pleasingly interspersed with rising grounds, and is almost entirely free from jungles. The air of the climate is in general unwholesome, but particularly so in April and May, during which months it blows a pestilential wind, attended with a great deal of rain. The country is intersected with many rivers, the largest of which is the *Jungar*, which during the rains descends with a loud noise from the hills, and runs with such rapidity as wholly to preclude the use of boats.

Money.

The Patna sicca rupee is the most common in this country, though the Rajah coins a small kind of rupee called *metendee mully*, which is stamped on one side with *Seeree Seeree Seeree Gorucknaut*, and on the other with *Seeree Seeree Seeree Rund Bahadur Shah*, with the figure of a knife in the middle. They are valued at about eight annas. Copper pice are used in circulation instead of cowries, and the currency is in general about 84 of them for a Patna sicca rupee; they have also a small silver coin called a daam, valued at four pice.

Towns.

The chief towns are *Catmandoo*, which contains 18,000 public buildings and about 250,000 inhabitants, *Patun*, which contains 22,000 houses and 250,000 inhabitants, and *Pautgong*, in which are 12,000 houses and about 150,000 inhabitants. The streets are broad and well calculated to throw off the water, but the entrances to the houses are very narrow, and few of the houses are above eight feet in height. The domes of the Hindoo temples and some of those in the Rajah's palace are faced with tiles, and have the tops of them adorned with gilding.

Expenses.

The monthly expenses of the Rajah are as follow, *viz.*:—

Rs.	30,000	for the wages of 800 servants.
„	26,000	for mutsuddies.
„	30,000	for the expenses of the country.
„	8,000	for the expenses of the artillery park.
„	14,000	for sundries.
Rs.	1,08,000	

The following is the route of the person who gives this account from Rungpore to Catmandoo :—

	Kos from	
Rungpore	... 0	
Nawabgunge	... 10	
Mungulbarry	... 8	
Jarnarypore	... 8	
Curnai	... 11	
Papulah	... 11	
Nawabgunge	... 9	
Purnia	... 9	
Sahebgunj	... 22	
Dangmarra	... 10	
Kullaputtee	... 9,	four of which is through a very thick jungle.
Hunnoomannagur	... 8,	three ditto ditto.
Joinagur	... 5,	two and one-half ditto.
Jannuckpore	... 10	
Putla	... 4	Some grass jungle.
Tooloo Chowah	... 8	There is no water for 6 kos, the road running through a jungle where are tigers, elephants, &c.
Kummullah	... 8	A number of rivers, stones, and jungles.
Sidulla	... 4	The road runs for 7 kos through very large hills, and the Rajah has built a fort with a pass about ½ kos from it.
Khoorcote	... 10	The fort is made of bamboos stuck close in the earth in two rows, with large stones between.
Dumbutcha	... 10	The road runs by the side of the Cossee, winding through hills, sometimes ascending ¼ kos and again descending.
Punchunkoo	... 9	The road lying on the banks of rivulets and winding through the hills.
Dhoobikhili	... 10	There is a hill named Dhobihah in this stage; over it is a very good road which runs for near 2 kos.
Catmandoo or Pusputtee	... 8	
Completed kos	201	

No. 26.—See page

Account of the City of Gour from an old manuscript (anonymous).

The City of Gour is now so entirely in ruins, and the whole so overgrown with jungle, that it is with difficulty those buildings can be discovered, of which there are still some remains. I made a few memoranda at each, and took copies of all the inscriptions I could find, which are carved in marble and placed in the fronts of them.

The kellah is so entire a jungle both withinside and without that there is no passage to be made through it. There is now standing one side of the rampart and wall, which appears to be upwards of thirty feet high and a quarter of a mile long; and from pieces to be seen in different parts, I should suppose the kellah to have.....
.....This wall is built of
.....for about two feet, and within the bricks are worked up with mud, the whole thickness of the wall at the foundation making about 15 feet. I am at a loss to form an idea of the kinds of defence which could be made from a wall of this height, in which there do not at present appear even loopholes for the discharge of musketry or arrows. If there are any buildings within, they are concealed by the jungle, which is so thick that I could not discover any signs even of the gateways that must have led immediately into the fort.

Two gateways are standing to the northward, which, from their appearance, I am induced to conclude must have formed a part of the entrance, but they are.....
the wall, that they can have been only the outward gates; of one there is remaining only a single arch; of the other, the whole is standing; and the archway, in length, breadth and height, is equal to any in the fort at the Presidency, with lodgements on each side in the same manner. It is built for the most part of brick, there being only some rough marble stones in each front.

The muckberah is a burying-place, built of bricks, the gateways and walls of which are very curiously ornamented with figures and flowers impressed in the bricks when they were burned, and.....
.....similar to the Dutch tiles in Europe, and which to this day appear to have received very little detriment from time or weather. From this place Captain Adams removed the two finest tombs in the city, said to contain two Kings, named Hossein Shah and Nusrut Shah. What became of the most principal parts of these tombs, I cannot learn, but I believe they are in Calcutta, and there are now by the waterside five pieces of black marble polished on two sides, twelve feet in length, two feet high, and two feet thick, which were part of them.

The mosque is in tolerable repair, and is inhabited by a fakeer. There is nothing remarkable in the building or curious about it, except a small stone with the impression of a foot, which they impose upon the people for Mahomed's, and say it was brought from Medina 250 years since, and carried to Moorshedabad by Surajah Dowlah, but returned again by Meer Jaffir at the instance of his priests.

INSCRIPTIONS.

بر کتابه خانه قدم شریف

قال الله تعالی من جاء بالحسنة فله عشر امثالها یعنی هذه الحجرة المطهرة التی فیها اثر قدم النبی ﷺ السلطان المعظم المکرم السلطان ابن *

السلطان بن سید اشرف الحسینی خلد الله ملکه و سلطانه و اعلی امره و شانه فی سنة سبع و ثلثین و تسع مایة

بر در احاطه قدم شریف

ملصرفه الله فتح قریب و بشر المومنین لا اله الا الله محمد رسول الله نقش خط سنگی که طول آن سه دست پیما و بالا عرضش یکدست نیم پاو بر قدم شریف بر زمین افتاده است

فی هذا الباب فی عهد السلطان العالم العادل سید السادات جامع السعادات خلیفة الله بالحجة و البرهان غوث الاسلام و المسلمین حامی الدنیا و الدین ابو المظفر شاه حسین السلطان بن

سید اشرف الحسینی خلد الله ملکه و سلطانه فی الثانی و العشرین

ذی شهر محرم سنه تسع و تسع مایه *

(On the door of the building containing the 'Kadum Sharif' or Holy foot :

NUSRUT SHAH : 937 Hijra.

On the gateway of the same :

HOSSEIN SHAH :

22 Mohurrum, 909 Hijra.)

The monument is about 100 feet high with a winding staircase. At the foundation it may be about 20 feet diameter, and at the top 8 feet. It is built entirely of brick, but there are no inscriptions or writings by which I could discover the time of its being erected, or the name of the person who built it.

The Sonah Musjeed is a place of worship, said to be built by Nusrut Shah in 932 of Hijra, and consisted of three ranges of arches, with a solid stone wall in the back, and was roofed by small domes being thrown from arch to arch. The length of it is 156 feet, and the extreme breadth about 80 (?).....
Arches of fourteen feet in height, eight feet through, and eight feet and half wide, with a pillar between each, which shows a front of 2½ feet, and is exclusive of the foundation on which the arches are formed. Over every pillar and over every arch there is a slab of polished marble, and above that a triple cornice. There is a second range of these arches also perfect, and some at each end of the building, all of the same size and order, and making together about six and thirty.

In the back wall of the building, opposite to each arch, is fixed a niche of marble, supported by two pillars of the same, which, as well as the inside, are all polished and carved with great labor. They are about 7 feet high within the roof, and the ornaments are carried up 3 feet higher. Their form is a semi-circle, the extreme breadth of which may be 4½ feet. There are 6 of these standing at present, and two or three taken down, but not carried away. Before this building there was a court-yard formed by a stone wall, with a large stone gateway on each side ; and in the centre of the front two gateways, one without the other. The arches of them are about 15 feet high, 13 feet through, and 9 feet wide.

INSCRIPTION

نقال کتابه سونان مسجد که بردروازه میانگی
مکتوب است

بنیا فی الجنة بنی بد المسجد الجامع السلطان المعظم المکرم السلطان

ابن السلطان ناصرالدنیا والدین ابو المظفر نصرت شاه السلطان

ابن حسین شاه السلطان الحسینی خلد الله ملکه وسلطانه واعلی امره

وشانه فی سنه اثنی وثلثین وتسع مایه *

(NUSRUT SHAH. *Date of erection*, 937 *Hijra.*)

To the westward of the city is a small river, which, in the driest season, always retains a few feet of water, and it seems to be the only defence there ever was on that quarter. From the south to the north there have been many ramparts thrown up in a circular form, and which are now remaining at the distance of kos or kos and half from each other. The outermost of them reaches to Malda factory, which is situated about six kos to the northward of the kellah.

APPENDIX B.

Some statistics of present Administration.

FISCAL

Revenue.

			Rs. A. P.
Imperial—			
Land Revenue Collections (1871-72)		...	9,74,880 0 0
Stamps—			
Net receipts after deduction of discount to purchasers		...	1,63,245 0 0
Income-tax Collections 1871-72 (on all incomes amounting to Rs. 750)		... ...	38,183 0 0
Excise—			
Opium (165 Mds. 35 Srs. 0 Chts. sold)	1,41,570 0 0		
Gunjah (317 16 13 used)	33,721 0 0		
Country Spirit (5,306 gallons used) ...	8,902 0 0		
Fees on Muddut licenses, &c.	2,129 0 0		
		1,86,322 0 0	
Deduct charges ...	7,612 0 0		
Sale cost of Opium ...	46,654 0 0		
		54,266 0 0	
Net revenue ...		...	1,32,056 0 0
Fines (1871)... ...		...	6,340 4 9
Local—			
Ferries (127 in number)...		...	21,929 0 0
Toll bars (10 in number)...		...	3,215 0 0
Pounds (19 in number) net proceeds...		...	835 0 0
Zemindary Dawk Fund ...		...	7,206 0 0
Registration Fees ...		...	5,042 0 0
Town Fund, Rungpore ...		...	6,402 0 0

CHARGES.				Rs.	A.	P.
Total cost of Officials and Police of all kinds, as per statistical return, 1871-72				3,60,783	0	0
Civil and Sessions Judge—						
Establishment.						
1 Serishtadar				120	0	0
1 Translator				100	0	0
1 Nazir				100	0	0
1 Head Clerk				75	0	0
1 Peshkar				54	0	0
1 Accountant				30	0	0
6 Civil Court Ameens				320	0	0
9 Mohurirs				204	0	0
5 Chaprassies				27	0	0
3 Duftries				15	0	0
15 Peons				95	0	0
		Total Rupees	...	1,140	0	0
Subordinate Judge—						
Establishment				334	0	0
Six Moonsiffs—						
Total Establishment				1,604	0	0
Collector and Magistrate—						
Deputy Collector and Joint Magistrate—						
Collector's Establishment.						
1 Head Clerk				80	0	0
1 Second ditto				30	0	0
1 Third ditto				25	0	0
1 Serishtadar				128	0	0
1 Peshkar				54	0	0
1 Record-keeper				54	0	0
1 Accountant				54	0	0
10 Mohurirs @ 24				240	0	0
1 Treasurer				65	0	0
2 Poddars				22	0	0
2 Duftries				13	0	0
1 Khalasi				5	0	0
1 Furash				4	0	0
1 Sweeper				3	0	0
5 Orderly Peons @ 5				25	0	0
			Total Rs.	802	0	0

Magistrate's Establishment.

		Rs.	As.	P.
1	Head Clerk	136	0	0
1	Second ditto	25	0	0
1	Head Mohurir	52	0	0
1	Record-keeper	34	0	0
5	Mohurirs	116	0	0
2	Duftries	13	0	0
3	Orderly Peons @ Rs. 5 each	15	0	0
1	Sweeper	4	0	0
	Total ...	395	0	0

Where a progressive salary is attached to a ministerial office, the salary drawn at the present time is given.

Two Deputy Magistrates.—				
Establishment, each	45	0	0
Deputy Magistrate, Sub-division Gyebanda.—				
Establishment	191	0	0
District Superintendent of Police.				
Assistant ditto.—				
Office Establishment	150	0	0

Police Force.

6	Inspectors	900	0	0
19	Sub-Inspectors	1,160	0	0
39	Head Constables	655	0	0
350	Constables	2,259	0	0
	Monthly cost...	5,124	0	0

Medical Officer

EDUCATIONAL.

Four Deputy Inspectors	325	0	0

Rungpore Zillah School.

Head Master	150	0	0
Second Master	60	0	0
Five Under Masters	135	0	0
Two Pundits	45	0	0
Sundries	15	0	0
Total ...	405	0	0

(Govt. grant, Rs. 200.)

GENERAL.

Jail.

The daily average number of prisoners confined during the year (1871) was 244, and 11 in the Lock-up at Bhowanigurge. On the last day of the year there were in confinement 211 men 1 woman, of whom 138 men 1 woman were Mahomedans, and 73 men Hindus.

The total cost of the jail during the year was Rs. 15,943, or an average of Rs. 62-8 per prisoner. The net cost, after deduction of the profits realized from manufactures, was Rs. 12,999, or nearly Rs. 51 per prisoner.

Money Order Office.

There is one office at the civil station: the particulars of work (1871-72) are as follows :—

Number of orders issued.	Amount of orders issued.	Amount of commission received.	Number of orders paid.	Amount of orders paid.
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.
2,151	1,41,216 6 0	1,490 10 0	495	42,131 7 0

Savings Bank, established 1871-72.

Number of Depositors.	Amount deposited during year.	Amount withdrawn during year.	Amount remaining in deposit.
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
21	7,029 0 0	590 0 0	6,439 0 0

Schools.

The following Table shows the number of schools and scholars according to two returns, the departmental and census. As regards the number of scholars, the census return is probably the more correct of the two :—

Description of Schools.	Departmental Return, 1871-72.			Census, 1872.	
	Number of Schools.	Number of Scholars in books.	Number attending.	Schools.	Scholars.
Government Vernacular ...	6	164	103	3	58
Aided English Middle Class ...	10	312	227	5	74
Aided Vernacular for Boys ...	29	811	518	115	1,826
Aided Vernacular for Girls ...	6	64	38	3	22
Day Patshalas for Boys ...	149	2,721	1,914	62	577
Night Patshalas for Boys ...	29	409	300	2	30
Private English High Class ...	1	57	37	3	101
Private Vernacular for Boys ...	5	169	121	21	196
Do. do. for Girls ..	2	9	9	1	9
New Day Patshala ...	4	77	60	.....	.....
Moktobkhanas ..	.....	.....	.....	9	48
Aided Night School for Boys ..	.....	.....	.....	2	29
Private do. for do. ...	.....	.....	.....	3	33
Total ...	241	4,823	3,327	229	3,003

Charitable Dispensaries.

There are seven dispensaries, two at head-quarters, three miles apart, one at the sub-division, and four in the interior of the district. The three former are partly supported by local subscriptions. Of the latter, one at Olipore is wholly maintained by Maharani Swarnamahi of Cassimbazar, and the three others are principally supported by the zemindars; that at Batashun by Lachmiput Dugar of Moorshedabad; that at Tooshvanda by Babu Romoni Mohun Chowdry; and that at Kaukina by Babu Mohima Ranjan Roy.

The following Table gives particulars of their working:—

Name of Dispensary.	Date of establishment.	Number of In-Patients.	Number of Out-Patients.	Remarks.
Rungpore Civil Station ...	1847	152	5,795	
Mahigunge ...	1868	.....	3,690	
Bhowanigunge ...	1864	.....	252	
Olipore ...	1867	.....	3,829	
Batashun ...	1867	.....	2,047	
Kankina ...	1871	.....	3,023	7 months' work.
Tooshvanda ...	1872	.....	.....	
Total ...		152	18,636	

Moonsiffees.

Place where situated.	Distance from Civil Station.
Sudder Moonsiffee	.....
Bhotmari in Kankina, east of Teesta	20 miles.
Barobari in Panga, east of Teesta	26 „
Olipore in Baharbund, east of Teesta	28 „
Gyebanda in Baharbund, on the Ghaghat	56 „
Kumargunge in Soroopore	12 „

Police Stations.

Names of Stations.	Distance from Head-Quarters.
Mahigunge in Coondy	.....
Nisbetgunge on the Ghaghat	3
Outpost Kaligunj	11
Jaldaka in Cazeerhat	25
Dimla ditto	37
Forunbari in Kankina, east of Teesta	24
Barobari in Panga, on the Dhurla	28
Nagesari in Bhiturbund, east of Dhurla	44
Outpost Fulkumar	60
Olipore in Baharbund, east of Teesta	28
Outpost Sundargunge	24
Chilmari in Baharbund, on the Brahmaputra (sub-division) ...	40
Sadollapore in Warigacha (Edrakpore), on the Ghaghat (sub-division)	38
Bhowanigunge in Patiladaha (sub-division)	44
Govindgunge (sub-division)	48
Outpost Polashbari	36
Pirgunge in Burrobilla	24
Molong in Batashun	11
Kumargunge in Soroppore	12
Durwani	30

Distilleries.

There are four distilleries for the preparation of country spirits, one at head-quarters, and three outlying ones at Dimla, Nagesari, and Olipore.

LIST OF PERGUNNAHS.

Alihat.
Amdahar.
Andooah.
Arshadpur.
Baharbund.
Bahmankunda.
Bairiperi.
Bairishekpala.
Bajitpur.
Bamondanga.
Batashun.
Baussut.
Bhiturbund.
Burrobilla.
Cazeerhat (Chakla).
Coondy.
Edrakpore.
Futtehjungpore.
Futtehpore.
Ganguagar.
Islambad.
Kabilpur.
Kankina (Chakla).
Karaibari.
Khas Taluk.
Khetlal.
Kunj Ghoraghat.
Khupi.
Maimantpur.
Mastah.
Muktipur.
Munthana.
Paika.
Panga.
Patiladaha.
Peri.
Perikhalisa.
Poladoshi.
Purubbhag (Chakla).
Pyrabund.
Rokanpur.
Sherpur.
Shorhutta.
Shukurguzari.
Sorooppore.
Taluk Khrishnai.
Tepa.
Tulshighat.
Udashi.
Warigacha.

APPENDIX C.

Agricultural Return and Gazetteer, compiled by Mr. J. Crawfurd, B.C.S., (1871).

In order to give a concise view of the agricultural operations carried on in this district, month by month, the information required as to the names of the various crops grown, with the periods of their sowing and reaping respectively, and a mention of the soils best suited to each, have been thrown into the form of a calendar, which is annexed. Particular efforts have been made to obtain all the names by which the various kinds of dhan are known to the peasantry. These have not been altogether unsuccessful, as may be seen from the very formidable catalogue of uncouth names which follows the calendar. *Omitted.* To distinguish the kinds of rice, however, on any scientific principle, or to say even whether any real distinction whatever exists between the kinds of dhan denoted by different names in different parts of the country, would require more botanical knowledge than is at present here available.

The chief dhan crop of this district is that which ripens in November and December, and consists mostly of transplanted dhan. Towards the east of the district, in the winter months, this crop seems almost exclusively to occupy the land, and throughout the district it is more important than crops of any other kind. The lands to the east of the district are somewhat below the general level, and very subject to river inundation; consequently a usage there exists of transplanting the dhan twice, once on to somewhat high and rich land before finally planting it out in the marshes. This process is said to render the seedlings somewhat more hardy than the ordinary ones, and enables them the better to resist floods. Also, the seedlings being of a considerable height when finally planted out—land more deeply covered with water than usual—becomes available for the reception of the plant. The system also, it is said, effects a considerable saving in seed, the shoots from each seed of dhan being divisible on final transplantation into many plants.

Of other crops, the importance varies very much in different parts of the district. Mulberry is not to be seen near head-quarters; while it is very common in the south of the district. Sugarcane is cultivated to any great extent only in the western and southern parts of the district. In the north and north-west, ginger and tobacco are staple products, the lands there being comparatively unfavorable for the cultivation of dhan. Jute is extensively produced throughout the district, but is perhaps most cultivated towards the east, especially on some of the churs (চর) of the Brahmaputra. Compared with more southern districts, indigo is a very unimportant crop here. The manufacture has entirely passed out of the hands of Europeans, and the

greater part of the crop now cultivated is carried to factories dotted over the country and in the hands of native manufacturers on a small scale. The plant is cultivated chiefly in the central and north-western parts of the district. The betel leaf and the betelnut are largely consumed by the inhabitants, and pân gardens and palm orchards are met with in perfection everywhere.

The only attempt made, as far as is known, to improve the quality of the grain used as food here, was the late introduction of Carolina paddy. The seed being improperly treated as winter rice, the crop unfortunately failed. In 1840, a very superior kind of sugarcane was introduced by some European gentlemen; the cultivation rapidly extended, the yield of sugar obtained being some 25 per cent more than that yielded by the ordinary kinds, and the cane became known by the name of Sahebán Kusa (সাহেবান কুসাইর): unfortunately, in a few years, a blight fell upon it in the shape of insects, to whose ravages it fell a victim, and is now extinct.

Within the last thirty years the cultivation of dhan has extended in the most marked manner. The increase, it is said, may be safely stated at 75 per cent. No such improvement, however, has taken place in the productive powers of the land, which, it is generally believed, have considerably deteriorated. Constant cropping, on unscientific principles, where no fertilizing inundations are of constant recurrence, must naturally produce this effect; but much is to be hoped for from an improvement in the art of agriculture, which here is yet in its infancy.

STATEMENT.

Class.	Names of Crops.		Seasons of Sowing,				
	English.	Bengali.	Apl.	May	June	July	Au
			Baisakh.	Jaisht.	Assar.	Srabun.	
I.—Cereals i	Early rice or spring crop rice.	Dhanya aus, asu, bitari, or bhadui, dhanya (আউশ, আশু, বিত্বরি বা ভাদৈই ধান্য), otherwise called betari khunda, fasli robi, chaumaha or chaumaha abâd বিত্বরি খন্দ, ফশল রবি, চৌমাহা, বা চৌমাহা আবাদ.					
		(a) Ká-inan áus dhánya ... কাইনন আউশ ধান্য.		sown	...	...	
		(b) Aus dhánya ... আউশ ধান্য.	...	...	..	Reaped	

Transplanting, Reaping, &c.									Remarks.
gust	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apl.	
Bhadro.	Aswin.	Kartik.	Agrahen.	Pous.	Magh	Phalgun.	Choit.		
									The names of this dhan are derived from the rapidity with which it comes to maturity and ripens. The varieties generally thrive best on a high sandy soil, and many kinds fail entirely should water lodge on the land for any length of time. In its cultivation it requires much more attention than the winter crop rice, and it is much more effected by the accidents of the seasons, and is much more liable to failure. This rice is reaped from the land where it is sown, it not being customary to transplant it: indeed, there are only two varieties (thranga and chupalo ধোবঙ্গন ও চাপলে।) with which transplantation is ever attempted. Eighty years ago it was estimated that of the rice produced in the district, aus rice formed only about one-eighth, and this, to the present day, remains about the proportion. Aus dhan does not come much into the market, it being chiefly consumed by the cultivators themselves. Aus dhan is divided into the three classes mentioned in the table, according to the method of its cultivation, and according to the soil its varieties suit best. The names of these varieties, as known to the peasantry, are given in the Appendix at length (omitted.)
Reaped		...	...	...	...	...	...	Sown	The varieties of this species of dhan are enumerated in Appendix A (omitted); they grow best on land of a high description. At the end of Baisakh they may be sown on the high rich lands, from which crops of sugarcane, tobacco, and mustard, have been obtained, and then they prove very productive.
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Sown	...	The varieties of this dhan will be found in Appendix B (omitted). They suit land of an ordinary description, neither requiring it to be very high or very low. In Magh they may be sown on land from which a crop of winter rice has been obtained.

Class.	Names of Crops.			Seasons of Sowing,			
	English.		Bengali.	Apl. May. Baisakh.	June. Jaisht.	July. Assar.	Au Srabun.
		(c)	Jali áus dhánya ... জলি আউশ ধান্য.	...	...	Reaped	
Cereals 2	Winter rice	...	Aman, hemanti or heunti dhanya(আমন, হৈমন্তি বা হেঁউতি ধান্য), otherwise called fasli kharif or atmaha khanda ফশলে খরিফ, আট মাহা খন্দ.	...	...	...	...
		(a)	1 Ropa or rooya dhânya... (রোপা বা রোওয়া ধান্য.)	Sown		...	trans
			2 Gachhi dhanya ... (গাছি ধান্য.)	...	...	transplanted	

Transplanting, Reaping, &c.									Remarks.
gust	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apl.	
Bhadro.	Aswin	Kartik.	Agrahen.	Pous.	Magh.	Phalgun.	Choit.		
...	...	...	...	...	Sown.		...		The varieties of this rice will be found enumerated in Appendix C (omitted). They require a low moist soil, and are generally sown in the beds of bheels and rivers. Winter rice is often sown on the same ground as these varieties, and at the same time, and this after the removal of the aus crop springs up, it being brought forward by the rains, and gives a second crop at the same time as the other winter rice.
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	This kind of dhan derives its name from the period when it ripens, and the time it takes to come to maturity. By far the greater proportion of the rice produced in this district is winter rice. The distinctive feature in its cultivation is the transplantation. The varieties that are not transplanted being comparatively little cultivated here. The two classes are mentioned below.
planted	...	...	Reaped		...	...	Sown		The varieties of this dhan are given in Appendix D (omitted). In the first instance it is sown on high land. On the first rain rendering it sufficiently moist, when the seedlings are about a foot high, they are gradually transplanted to marshy soil, as this becomes ready for them in about 10 inches of water. This land need not be of the lowest description, but it must be such as in the rain is covered with water. In the eastern part of the district, between rivers Testa, Darla, and Brahmaputra, a variation is often introduced in the cultivation. The dhan is transplanted twice. First, when about a foot high into high dry land, where it is well manured and weeded. When about two feet high, it is re-transplanted on to wet marshy soil. This practice is said to render the plants more hardy and to save seed, the shoots from a single grain often being divided into nine or ten plants. Dhan, when thus cultivated, is called gachhi dhan.
Re-	transp	lanted	...	...	...	...	Sown		গাছি ধান.

Class.		Names of Crops. English.	Bengali.	Seasons of Sowing, Apl. Baisakh.	May. Jaisht.	June. Assar.	July. Srabun.	Au
		(b)	Buna, bona or booya hemanti dhanya. (বুনা, বোনা বা বোওয়া হেমন্তি ধান্য.)	Sown		...	...	
Cereals	3	Wheat (triticum) ...	Gam (গম.)	...	...	...		
,,	4	Barley (hordeum) ...	Yab, pera or payara. (যব, পোড়াকিপায়ড়া.)		...	...	...	
,,	5	Oats (avena) ...	Ot or jai. (ওট বা জই.)	,,	...	...	...	
,,	6	Millet (panicum italicum)	Kaun, kanga or kangu. (কাউন, কঙ্গ বা কঙ্গু.)	..	Reaped			
,,	7	Millet (panicum miliaceum.)	China. (চীনা.)	Reaped	...	...	...	
II.—Green Crops	8	Pulse ...	Más kálái ... (মাস কালাই.)	..	...		Sown	
,,	9	Ditto ...	Thakuri kálái ... (ঠাকুরা কালাই.)	...	..		Ditto	
,,	10	Ditto ...	Boŕá kálái ... (বোড়া কালাই.)	...	...		Ditto	
,,	11	Ditto ...	Kunte kálái ... (কুণ্ডি কালাই.)	...	..		Ditto	

Transplanting, Reaping, &c.									Remarks.
gust	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apl.	
Bhadro.	Aswin.	Kartik.	Agrahen.	Pous.	Magh.	Phalgun.	Choit.		
...	...	...	Reaped		...	Sown			This kind of winter rice is not usually transplanted. It is sown in the beds of bheels and rivers, often, as above noted, along with aus dhan. As the rains continue, and the water of the bheels and rivers rises, the dhan grows a pace, and the stem at times attains the length of even 12 feet. The cultivation of this species of dhan is not at all extensive in this district. The varieties of it, as named by the peasantry, will be found in Appendix E (omitted).
...	...	Sown		...	...	Reaped			High rich land, carefully cultivated, is required for this crop.
...	...	Ditto		...	...	Ditto			Ditto ditto.
...	...	Ditto		...	...	Ditto			A high dry sandy soil is the best for this crop. Chur land does well. It is often sown along with indigo.
...	...	...	...	...	Sown			...	This crop is grown on low lands moist, but not marshy. It is extensively cultivated on some of the Brahmaputra churs.
...	...	...	...	Sown		...		Reaped.	This also requires a somewhat moist soil.
...	...	Reaped		...	...	...	...		Suits a high dry soil, but requires little cultivation.
...	...	Ditto		...	...	...	...		Ditto.
...	...	Ditto		...	...	...	...		Ditto.
...	...	Ditto		...	...	...	...		Ditto.

Class.		Names of Crops.		Seasons of Sowing,				
		English.	Bengali.	Apl.	May.	June.	July.	Au
				Baisakh.	Jaisht.	Assar.	Srabun.	
II.-Green	12	Pulse (cytisus cajan) ...	Arahur kálái ... (অরহর বা অড়র বা অটর.)	Sown	...	...	...	
„	13	Ditto ...	Dhalâ bunt ... (ধলা বুঁট.)	...	...	...	...	
„	14	Ditto ...	Lál bunt ... (লাল বুঁট.)	...	...	...	...	
„	15	Peas (pisum satioum) ...	Matur ... (মটর.)	...	...	...	...	
„	16	Ditto ...	Pátnái matur ... (পাটনাই মটর.)	...	...	...	...	
„	17	Pulse ...	Soná mug ...	...	...	...	...	
„	18	Ditto ...	Krishna mug ...	...	...	...	...	
„	19	Ditto ...	Ghourá mug ...	...	...	...	...	
„	20	Ditto (lathyrus sativus)	Khesúri ...	...	...	...	...	
„	21	Ditto (ervum hirsatum)	Musûr or musuri kálái ...	...	...	...	...	
„	22	Kidney bean (dolidros caljang)	Burbbut or barbbate ...	Gathered	...	...	...	
III.—Oil Seeds	23	Mustard (sinapisrumosa)	Ráy ... (রাই.)	...	...	...	...	
„	24	Ditto ...	Mághi surshya মাঘি সর্ষ্যা or kayali surshya কাজলি সর্ষ্যা.	...	...	...	...	
„	25	Ditto ...	Dhepi surshya or swelto sarshya. (ঢেপি বা শ্বেতি সর্ষ্যা.)	...	...	...	...	
„	26	Sesame (sesamum orientale)	Rukta til or asú til ... (রক্ত তিল বা আশু তিল.)	...		Cut		...

Transplanting, Reaping, &c.									Remarks.
gust	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jany.	Feb.	Mar.	Apl.	
Bhadro.	Aswin.	Kartik.	Agrahen.	Pous.	Magh.	Phalgun.	Choit.		
...	...	...	...	...	Reaped		Sown		Suits a high dry soil, but requires little cultivation.
...	...	Sown		...	...	Reaped			Ditto.
...	...	Ditto		...	...	Ditto			Ditto.
...	...	Ditto		...	...	Ditto			Suits new chur land well, but may be grown on high dhan land.
...	...	Ditto		...	...	Ditto			Suits a high dry land.
...	...	Ditto		...	...	Ditto			Ditto.
...	...	Ditto		...	...	Ditto			Ditto.
...	...	Ditto		...	...	Ditto			Ditto.
...	...	Ditto		...	...	Ditto			Ditto.
...	...	Ditto		...	...	Ditto			Ditto.
...	...	...	Sown		...	...	Gathered.		Ditto.
...	Sown		...	Reaped		...	...		Ditto.
...	Ditto		...	Ditto		...	...		Ditto.
...	Ditto		...	Ditto		...	...		Ditto.
...	...	...	...	Sown		...	...		Ditto.

Class.		Names of Crops.		Seasons of Sowing.				
		English.	Bengali.	Apl.	May.	June.	July.	Au
				Baisakh.	Jaisht.	Assar.	Srabun.	
III.—Oil Seeds	27	Sesame (sesamum orientale).	Krishna til, or hemante til. (কৃষ্ণ তিল বা হৈমন্তি তিল.)	...	...	...	...	
„	28	Castor-oil or palma christe (ricinus communis)	Eranda putra, or hendápút (এরণ্ড পত্র বা হেন্তা পাত্র.)	Leaves gathered		...	...	
IV.—Fibres	29	Jute ...	Koshta ... (কোষ্টা.)	...	...	...		C
„	30	Hemp ...	Sôn ... (শোণ.)	..	...	...	...	
		China grass (rhea) ...	Kankura ... (কনকুরা.)	...	...	...	...	
		Hibiscus connabinus ...	Meshta, or meshta pat ... (মেষ্টা বা মেষ্টা পাত.)	...	...	...	...	
V. Tubers	31	Ginger ...	Adrak, or ada ... (আদ্রক বা আদা.)	Planted Dug up	...	...	...	
„	32	Turmeric ...	Haridra, or haldi ... (হরিদ্রা বা হলদি.)	Ditto	...	...	...	
„	33	Arrowroot ...	Arrowroot ... (আরোরুট.)	Ditto	...	...	...	
„	34	Potato (solanum tuberosum).	Bilati alu ... (বিলাতি আলু.)	...	...	...	...	
„	35	Aram companulatum ...	Ol ... (ওল.)	...	...	...	...	

TRANSPLANTING, REAPING, &c.									REMARKS.
gust	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apl.	
Bhadro.	Aswin.	Kartik.	Agrahan.	Pous.	Magh.	Phalgun.	Choit.		
	Sown	...		Cut	...	...	...		Suits a high dry land.
...	...	...		Sown		Leaves gathered seeds gathered			This is not usually sown in fields, but is planted round homestead, forming a sort of fence, and is often, too, planted along boundary lines. A kind of silk worm is fed on the leaves, and oil is expressed from the stalk.
ut	...	...	...	...	...		Sown		This crop does well throughout the district, but is cultivated most extensively on the Brahmaputra churs. Low marshy soil is unsuited to it.
...	...		Sown		...	...	Cut		A high dry soil is most suitable to this crop.
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	This grows wild in various parts of the district, but chiefly on the churs in the rivers. It is principally used for making fishing nets.
...	...	Planted			...	...	...	...	Little grown in this district. The best native paper is made from it. It is cut when 4 or 4½ feet high, and grows up again.
...	...	...	...	...	...	Planted Dug up			Grown on a high light soil.
...	...	...	...	...	...	Ditto Ditto			Ditto.
...	...	...	...	...	Dug up		Planted		Ditto.
Planted		...	...	...	...	...		...	A rich dry soil the best.
...	...	Planted Dug up		...	...	...		...	Not cultivated in fields, but generally planted in and around the homestead. Most of the yam-like roots mentioned may be dug up when a year old, or allowed to continue growing for a year or two more.

Class.		Names of Crops.		Seasons of Sowing,				
		English.	Bengali.	Apl.	May.	June.	July.	Au
				Baisakh.	Jaisht.	Assar.	Srabun.	
V.—Tubers	36	Arum indicum ...	Man (মান.) ...	...	...	...	...	
„	37	Various kinds of the potato or yam tribe.	Baija kachu ...	...	...	...	...	
„	38		Manyi alu ...	...	...	...	...	
„	39		Purd, or gol alu ...	...	...	...	...	
„	40		Dhoba pat alu ...	...	...	...	...	
„	41		Hali puoya alu ...	...	...	...	...	
„	42		Goja alu ...	...	...	...	...	
„	43		Kshirsá bhog alu ...	...	...	...	...	
„	44		Machh alu ...	...	...	...	...	
„	45		Bundariyâ, or tepat alu ...	...	...	...	...	
„	46	Prickly—potato ...	Kunta alu	...	...	...	...	
„	47	Sweet potato (red convolvulus batatas.)	Sekalu or salcarkand ...	...	...	...	...	
„	48	Ditto white ...	Dhala sakarkand ...	...	...	...	...	
„	49	... ...	Bunsphor kachu ...	...	...	...	...	
„	50	... ...	Atiya kachu	...	...	...	...	
„	51	... ...	Megh lal kachu ...	...	...	...	...	
„	52	... ...	Billi kachu	...	...	...	...	
„	53	Onion	Chhota peyàj... ...	...	...	...	...	
„	54	Large onion ...	Bura peyàj	...	...	...	...	
„	55	Garlic (allium sativa) ...	Lasun or rosun ...	...	...	...	...	
„	56	... ...	... ...	...	...	...	...	

Transplanting, Reaping, &c.									Remarks.
gust.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apl.	
Bhadro.	Aswin.	Kartik.	Agrahen.	Pous.	Magh.	Phalgun.	Choit.		
...	...	Planted Dug up		...	...	...	...		Not cultivated in fields, but generally planted in and around the homestead. Most of the yam-like roots mentioned may be dug up when a year old, or allowed to continue growing for a year or two more.
...	..	Dug up		...	...	...	Planted.		Ditto.
...	...	...	... Dug up	Planted		...	...		Ditto.
...	...	...	Planted Dug up		...	...	...		Ditto.
...	...	...	Ditto		...	...	...		Ditto.
...	...	...	Ditto		...	...	...		Ditto.
...	...	...	Ditto		...	...	...		Ditto.
...	...	...	Ditto		...	...	...		Ditto.
...	...	...	Ditto		...	...	...		Ditto.
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		Ditto.
...	Dug up.	Planted.		...	...	...	...		Thrives well on high light soil.
...	...	Planted	...	...	Dug up		...		Ditto.
...	...	Do.	...	...	Do.		...		Ditto.
...	...	Dug up		...	..	...	Planted.		Ditto.
...	...	Ditto		...	...	...	Do.		Ditto.
...	...	Ditto		...	...	...	Do.		Ditto.
...	...	Ditto		...	...	...	Do.		Ditto.
...	Planted.		...	Dug up.		...	...		Ditto.
...	...	Planted.		Transplanted.		...	Dug up.		Ditto.
...	...	Ditto		...	...	...	Do.		Ditto.
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		

Class.	Names of Crops.		Seasons of Sowing,				
	English.	Bengali.	Apl. May.		June.	July.	Au
			Baisakh.	Jaisht.	Assar.	Srabun.	
VI.—Cucurbitaceous Plants 57	Momordica charantia ...	Matiya kaillá ...	...	...	...	...	
„ 58	... ...	Bara kailla	...	...	Gathered		
„ 59	Bottle gourd ...	Lun, labu, or kadu ...	...	...	...		So
„ 60	Momordica charantia ...	Kankarol kurkotak ...	...	...	Gathered		
„ 61	Cucumber (cucunus sativus).	Kohira khira or Khira-i or sonoyas.	...	Gathered		...	
„ 62	Pumpkin or white gourd (benincasa ceriform).	Panikumra or chalkumra	...	...	Gathered		
„ 63	Luffa acuta nugula ...	Jhinga or tara-i ...	...	...	Ditto		
„ 64	Snake gourd ...	Chichinya	...	...	...	Gathe	
„ 65	... ...	Ghrita kumra ...	Gathered		...	...	
„ 66	... ...	Putal or palwal ...	...	...	...	...	
„ 67	Melon	Bungi	...	...	Gathered.	...	
„ 68	Water-melon (cucurbita.. citrullus).	Turmuj or turbuj ...	Gathered.		...	...	
VII.—Miscellaneous 69	Indigo	Nil.	...	...	...		C
„ 70	Sugar cane	Kusa-ir or ikshu ...	...	...	...	...	
„ 71	Tobacco	Tamaku or tamak ...	...	...	...	...	
„ 72	Mulberry	Tutpatra or tul pat ...	Leaves gathered.		...		...
„ 73	Cotton (gossypium herbaceum.)	Kupas or banga ...	...	...	...	...	

TRANSPLANTING, REAPING, &c.

gust.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apl.	REMARKS.
Bhadro.	Aswin.	Kartik.	Agrahon.	Pous.		Magh.	Phalgun.	Choit.	
...	...	Sown	...	...		...	...	Gathered.	It is not generally usual to set apart any land for the cultivation of these plants; they are sown in any odd corner, generally near some fence.
...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	Ditto.
wn	...	...	...	Gathered			...	...	Ditto.
...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	Ditto.
...	...	...	Sown			...	...	...	Ditto.
...	...	...	...	...		...	Sown.		Ditto.
...	...	...	...	...		...	Ditto.		Ditto.
red	...	...	...	...		Sown.		...	Ditto.
...	...	...	Sown	...		...	...	Gathered	Very generally planted outside pân garden over the enclosures of which it creeps.
...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	
...	...	...	Sown			...	...	...	
...	...	...	Ditto			...	...	...	Ordinary garden soil will do. The plant must have plenty of water.
ut	...	...	...	Sown		...	...	...	A light dry soil is required. Chur land is the best.
...	...	...	Cut	Planted			...	...	A rich moist soil, well manured, required.
Sown	...	...	Transplanted				Cut.		A rich loamy soil, well manured and worked, requisite.
...	...	Leaves gathered. Planted.		Leaves gathered.			...	...	The plants, if taken care of, will last 10 or 12 years. A high rich soil is required. In some parts of the district it is not usual to embank the field as elsewhere, or to cut down the plants yearly. The latter becomes a tree.
...	...	...	...	Gathered.				Sown.	The cultivation of cotton hardly exists at all in the district, though the capabilities of the soil for its production are said to be superior.

Class.		Names of Crops.		Seasons of Sowing,				
		English.	Bengali.	Apl. May.		June.	July.	Au
				Baisakh.	Jaisht.	Assar.	Srabun.	
VII.—Miscellaneous	74	Betel leaf (pepir betle) ...	Pân	...	...	...	...	
	75	Chilli (capsicum ammum)	Lanka marich gachh marich akhah.	...	...	... Gathered		So
„	76	Betelnut (areca catechu)	Supari or guya ...	...	...	Sown Transplanted.		...
„	77	Thatching grass ...	Ullua or kaseyaghas ...	...	...	...	...	
„	78	Kusa grass (poa cynosuroides.)	Kusa or kusa ...	...	Cut	...	...	
„	79	Cyperus rotundus ...	Motha	...	...	...		C
„	80	Trigonella fœnom græcium.	Methi	...	...	...	...	
„	81	Bamboo	Bans ...	The bamboo shoots up from				
„	82	Plantain	Kola	...	Gathered		...	
„	83	... ...	... ...	...	...	...	...	
VIII.—Garden Vegetables	84	Eggplant or Brinjal (solanum melongena.)	Begun or baugan or baigun.	...	... Gathered.	Planted.		d. (Ea (Late
„	85	Love apple, or tomato ...	Bilati begun	...	...	...	...	
„	86	Carrot	Gajar	...	...	...	...	
„	87	Turnip	Salgam	...	...	...	...	
„	88	Beetroot	Bit palang	...	...	...	...	

TRANSPLANTING, REAPING, &c.

gust.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apl.	REMARKS.
Bhadro.	Aswin.	Kartik.	Agrahen.	Pous.	Magh.	Phalgun.	Choit.		
...	...	...	...	Gathered.		Planted.			A mixture of peat and loam is most congenial to the plant, which, however, thrives here on high, well cultivated land. It is a creeper, and is cultivated under cover; the gardens from their appearance being called buruj (বরজ). The leaf is best when the plant is more than a year old.
wn. (Early	Sown. crop.)	Transplanted. (Late crop.)	...	Transplanted.		Gathered.			
...	...	Gathered		Gathered		...		...	This is the nut of a palm tree, which is planted in gardens, and, after reaching maturity, continues to yield fruits from 12 to 15 years.
...	...	...	...	Cut	...	...		...	A poor, wet soil suits this well.
...	...	...	Planted.	...	...	...		...	Ditto.
ut.	...	Cut.		...	Planted			...	A better soil and somewhat higher land is required.
...	...	Sown	...	...	...	Cut.			Light sandy soil the best.
root		The bamboo cut			...	...		...	A high soil, mixed with sand, the best. The bamboos of this district are very poor and thin.
...	...	...	Gathered.		...	...		...	The trees die down yearly, but shoot up again. The plantains are best when they ripen in the hot season. Many kinds are grown here—imalabhoy, kancha kola, manna kola, matamun kola, antiya kola, kanni bansi kola, chinnisukur kola, &c.
...	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	
rly crop.)	p.)	... Planted.	... (Late	Gathered crop.)		...		...	Extensively eaten by the natives. Ordinary garden soil answer best.
...	...	Sown		...	...	Gathered.			Cultivated only in a few gardens.
...	...	Ditto		...	...	Ditto.			Ditto.
...	...	Ditto		...	...	Ditto.			Ditto.
...	...	Ditto		...	...	Ditto.			Ditto.

Class.		Names of Crops.		Seasons of Sowing.				
		English.	Bengali.	Apl.	May.	June.	July.	Au
				Baisakh.	Jaisht.	Assar.	Srabun.	
VIII.-Garden Vegetables	89	Radish	Mulâ	...	...	...	...	
„	90	Cauliflower	Phul kobi	...	...	...	...	
„	91	Cabbage	Ol kobi	...	...	...	...	
„	92	.....	Banda kobi	...	...	...	...	
	93	.....	Piring ...	...	...	...	...	
	94	Sâg of various kinds ...	Pálang, or palang sâg ...	...	...	...	...	
	95	.....	Chukái pálang ...	...	...	...	...	
	96	.....	Khonka ...	...	...	...	...	
	97	.....	Napha ...	...	...	...	...	
	98	.....	Lál sâg ...	...	...	...	...	
	99	.....	Bathuya ...	...	...	...	...	
	100	Carthamus tinctorius ...	Kusum ...	...	...	...	...	
	101	Lettuce ...	Sálád ...	...	...	...	...	
	102	Cress ...	Hálim ...	...	...	...	...	
	103	Legumes of various kinds	Bo, oyal,pete chhim ...	...	...	...	...	
	104	.....	Gájál gobigá chhim ...	...	...	...	...	
	105	.....	Ghrita kanchan ...	...	...	...	...	
	106	.....	Kalái chhim ...	...	...	...	...	
	107	.....	Kato oyá chhim ...	...	...	...	...	
	108	.....	Labi chhim ...	...	...	...	...	
	109	.....	Talá páij chhim ...	...	...	...	...	
	110	.....	Terà dháb chhim ...	...	...	...	...	
	111	.....	Sindur kota chhim ...	...	...	...	...	
	112	.....	Jami puli chhim ...	...	...	...	...	
	113	.....	Kal muchari chhim ...	...	...	...	...	

Transplanting, Reaping, &c.									Remarks.
gust.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan	Feb.	Mar.	Apl.	
Bhadro.	Aswin.	Kartik.	Agrahen.	Pous.	Magh.	Phalgun.	Choit.		
...	...	Sown		Dug up.		...	...		Cultivated only in a few gardens.
...	...	Ditto		...	...	Cut.			Ditto.
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		Cultivated only on small spots of garden land.
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		Ditto.
...	...	...	Sown		...	Cut			Generally sown on high land in and around the homes of the peasantry.
...	Sown		...	Cut		...	...		Ditto.
...	Ditto		...	Ditto		...	...		Ditto.
...	Ditto		...	Ditto		...	...		Ditto.
...	Ditto		...	Ditto		...	...		Ditto.
...	Ditto		...	Ditto		...	...		Ditto.
...	Ditto		...	Ditto		...	...		Ditto.
...	Ditto		...	Ditto		...	...		Ditto.
...	...	Sown.		Gathered...		...	...		Grown only in a few gardens.
...	...	Ditto		Ditto ...		...	...		Ditto.
...	...	...	...	Ditto ...		...	...		Generally sown in and around the homestead, and often trained up the sides of the house.
...	...	...	...	...	Ditto	...	Sown		Ditto.
...	...	...	...	...	Ditto	...	Ditto		Ditto.
...	...	...	...	...	Ditto	...	Ditto		Ditto.
...	...	...	...	...	Ditto	...	Ditto		Ditto.
...	...	...	...	...	Ditto	...	Ditto		Ditto.
...	...	...	...	...	Ditto	...	Ditto		Ditto.
...	...	...	...	...	Ditto	...	Ditto		Ditto.
...	...	...	...	...	Ditto	...	Ditto		Ditto.
...	...	...	...	...	Ditto	...	Ditto		Ditto.
...	...	...	...	...	Ditto	...	Ditto		Ditto.

Class.	Names of Crops.		Seasons of Sowing,				
	English.	Bengali.	Apl. May.	June.	July.	Au	
			Baisakh.	Jaisht.	Asar.	Srabun.	
IX.—Spices							
114	Laurus cassia ...	Tej patra ...	...	...	...	...	
115	Horse radish tree ...	Sajina moch or mochak ...	...	...	...	...	
116	Cariandrum sativum ...	Dupharuja or dhamjá ...	...	...	...	...	
	Cummin ...	Kali jíra ...	...	...	...	...	
	... .	Ja-un or ju-in ...	...	...	...	...	
	(Anethem pun mowrium)	Gu-â mu-uri or mauri ...	...	...	...	...	
	(Abus precatorms) ...	Phoran or bandholí ...	...	...	...	...	
	Indian fennel (anethum sowa) ...	Salup, or salupha ...	...	...	...	...	
X.—Fruit trees ...	Mangoe ..	Am ...	Ripens		...	...	
	Lechee (nephelium lechi)	Nechhu phal ...	Ditto		...	...	
	Tamarind (tamarindus indicus) ...	Imlee or tentul ...	Ditto		...	...	
	Custard apple (anona squamosa). ...	Ata, shurifa ...	...	...	...	...	
	Pomegranate (pronica granatum) ...	Dârim, or dâlim ...	...	...	...	Ripens.	
	Guava (psichum) ...	Suphari a'm, pyara, umroot	...	...	...	Ditto.	
	Bengal quince (acglo normelos) ...	Bel phal ...	...	...	...	...	
	Pumelo (cetrus decumana) ...	Batavi-nimbu ...	...	...	...	...	
	Lime (cetrus acidus) ...	Nimbu ...	...	...	...	...	
	Bullock's heart (anona reliculata) ...	Nonâ ...	...	...	...	...	
	Jack fruit (artocarpas entegrepolia) ...	Kântal ...	Ripens		...	...	
	Cocoanut ...	Narikól ...	...	Ripens	...	...	
	Pineapple ...	Anâras ...	...	Ditto	...	...	
	Papaw (carica papaya) ...	.....	...	Ditto		...	

Transplanting, Reaping, &c.									Remarks.
gust.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apl.	
Bhadro.	Aswin.	Kartik.	Agrahen.	Pous.	Magh.	Phalgun.	Choit.		
Planted	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		The leaves of this laurel are used for seasoning.
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		This is a large tree; portions of the root of which are used for seasoning.
...	Sown		...	Cut.					
...	Ditto		...	Ditto.					
...	Ditto		...	Ditto.					
...	Ditto		...	Ditto.					
...	Ditto		...	Ditto.					
...	A	...	...	...	...	...		Ripens	Mangoes of this district are generally very poor, and there is no variety which has attained the distinction of a particular name generally recognized.
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		Very few trees of this kind grow in the district.
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
...	Ripens								
...	...	...	...	...	...	Ripens.			
Ripen. Ditto. Ditto.									
...	...	...	...	...	...	...		Ripens	Jacks grow in great profusion in this district, and are to be obtained, though sparingly, throughout the year.
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		This fruit grows wild in great profusion, and is to be obtained, though sparingly, at other seasons of the year.

No precise agricultural statistics whatever are procurable for this district, and it would require more local knowledge of it in its various parts than is at present available to give even rough estimates that should be of any value. As the figures stand in the statistical returns submitted this year, the area of the district is 3,695 square miles, of which 3,200 only are cultivated, and of the rest, 245 are uncultivable. The first figure differs from that given in the revenue survey maps, owing to certain transfers of territory from this to other districts. The latter figures are not, I think, in the least trustworthy, being a mere estimate. It has been the misfortune of this district that the survey work has been terminated in it before that work was complete, the final survey report, which should have embodied the most valuable results of the investigations of the surveyors on statistical matters, as well as all information on matters of interest which might have been collected, never, as far as can be ascertained, having been submitted, or at least not having been furnished to this office, where the printed reports are to be found only for Malda and other equally fortunate districts. A great difficulty in giving an estimate of the acreage under the various crops arises from the difference that exists between various parts of the district as regards the crops chiefly cultivated—a local knowledge of one part not serving for another. It is possible to ride 50 miles from the sudder station at this season on a road bordered on both sides by nothing but dhan fields, with only here and there a field of mustard; but in other parts of the district the cultivation is not so extensively confined to this crop, though everywhere it is the staple of the district. Jute, tobacco, ginger, and rape seed, may be ranked as the crops next in importance; while mulberry in the south part of the district, where silk cultivation is chiefly pursued, is a crop quite as extensively cultivated as these.

The productive qualities of the soil as regards paddy vary so much throughout the district, and the rates of rent are so arbitrary and various in every pergunnah, that a very rough calculation only can be given of the produce of dhan on the lands paying the rent mentioned. Paddy land, rated at Rs. 1-8 a beegah, is in this district generally what is known as ek-khanda; *i.e.*, it would produce but one crop in the course of the year. The outturn would be from 6 to 7 standard muns per beegah; value about Rs. 4. Land rated at Rs. 3 would be of the better sort, producing two crops in the year. These might both be dhan; the one the aus crop, and the other the aman. In this case the total outturn of dhan in the course of the year would be from 11 to 12 muns, valued similarly at Rs. 7 or 7-8. It might, however, be a mixed crop instead of exclusively dhan. On high dry lands, after the removal of a crop of early rice, the outturn of which might be about 4 muns, (value Rs. 2-8), a crop of mustard, (2 muns @ Rs. 3=6), of khesari, (3½ muns @ Rs. 2-4= 7-14), of wheat, (2½ muns @ Rs. 3 = 7-8), of tobacco, (4½ muns @ Rs. 4-8 = 20-4), or of musari, (2½ muns @ Rs. 2-8 =6-4), might be obtained. By a proper selection of soil and care in cultivation, the produce of some crops, as sugarcane, tobacco, jute, and ginger, may be made very remunerative. It is estimated that from a

standard beegah the following outturn can be procured under favorable circumstances:—Sugarcane, 9 muns unrefined sugar, (danagur দানাগড়), (value Rs. 36), or 3 muns refined sugar, (value Rs. 60), 4½ muns treacle (mat মাত, value Rs. 13-8). Total Rs. 73-8. Tobacco 8 muns, value Rs. 36; jute 15 muns, value Rs. 45; ginger 25 muns undried (kacha কাঁচা), value Rs. 18; or 8 muns dried (sunt শুঁট), value Rs. 40; dried turmeric 5½ muns, value Rs. 22; potatoes 25 muns, value Rs. 50; betelnut 13 muns, value Rs. 39: millett (khaun) 7 muns, value Rs. 8; china 5 muns, value Rs. 6; thakurikalai 3 muns, value Rs. 7; and araha 5 muns, value 16-8.

A ryot's holding will very generally be considered a very large one if he holds from 80 to 100 beegahs. He will in this case require from 8 to 10 ploughs; and even though there be from four to five male members of his family, he will require the services of an equal number of servants to assist them in its cultivation. If a ryot's holding do not exceed three or four beegahs, it will be considered a very small one. In this district a fair sized comfortable holding will be about 25 beegahs, requiring probably three ploughs. It is estimated that in this district about 30 per cent. of the ryots cultivate only a single plough of land. The extent of this will vary according to the nature and condition of the soil and the crop cultivated, but on an average may be stated at from 10 to 11 beegahs. This class generally cultivates mixed crops, which are more remunerative than dhan alone. A ryot holding 15 beegahs of land, if he cultivated only dhan, would be very much in the same position as if he had an allowance of Rs. 8 per month, perhaps a little worse off; but his condition would be considerably better if his land admitted of his cultivating mixed crops, and if his inclination lead him to do so. Socially and materially, such petty landholders are quite on a par with respectable mudis, or other retail dealers of a similar class. It cannot be doubted that a very considerable proportion of the ryots in this district are in debt, but unfortunately no detailed information on the subject is obtainable, nor are any statistics on the subject available. The magnitude of the evil here is not by any means what it is in provinces like Oudh, nor is it such as to call for an agrarian law. The cause cannot in most cases be the exaction of a rack rent. It most frequently arises from the misfortunes of a season, extravagance at marriages and other festivals, or from speculation. The cause last mentioned chiefly affects the large jotedars, holding from Rs. 80 to 100 or above, as these frequently set up as brokers, buying up-country produce, and are of course liable to losses. The manager of the large tracts in the eastern portion of the district belonging to Rani Swarnamayi reports that one-half of the ryots are in debt. In the rest of the district, while as a class the ryots undoubtedly are somewhat in debt, the proportion, I think, is considerably less than this and not more than from 15 to 20 per cent.

The vast majority of the ryots in this district are without a right of occupancy. A cause, which it is said contributes greatly to this state of things, is that the ryots are fond of a change in the land they

cultivate, and frequently relinquish one and take another holding. The highest estimate would state the ryots having a right of occupancy at one-third of the whole body in the district; but this, if anything, I think is an over-estimate. For Baharbund and the eastern parts of the district they are estimated at one-eighth of the whole, and for Svarupur in the west at one-sixteenth (the rest being settled for a term), and for the southern parts of the district at five-eighths of the whole. For the whole district one-fourth would seem to be a fair estimate of the proportion the ryots having a right of occupancy bear to the whole body. The rest of the ryots are either tenants-at-will, or tenants settled for a term of years, subject to a new settlement on the expiry of their present engagements. Unfortunately, not one of the many zemindars, agents, &c., applied to, has been able, or it may be willing, to give any information regarding the proportion ryots having a right of occupancy at fixed rates (Upanchaké jotedar উপশ্চ কি জোতদার) bear to the other classes in this district. Their number is, undoubtedly, comparatively small, and they are not supposed to exceed one-sixteenth of the whole body of the tenantry. The figures regarding the operation of Act X in this district in establishing or acknowledging occupancy rights, &c., up to the date of its *repeal*, are given below, as far as these have been ascertainable:—

Of 734 claims made for kubooleuts at enhanced rates, 396 have been dismissed on the merits, and 51 struck off in default; while 181 have been decreed on the merits, 17 on confession, 77 *exparte*, and 12 have been settled out of Court.

Of 803 suits for arrears of rent at enhanced rates, 54 only have been dismissed on the merits, 288 struck off in default; while 312 have been decreed on the merits, 29 on confession, 46 *exparte*, and 74 have been settled out of Court.

There have been 23 cases of entry in the common and special registers under Act XI of 1859, and 20 jotes have within the last year been recognized as istemrari on butwaras being made.

There is no class of small proprietors in this district who own, occupy, and cultivate their hereditary lands without either a zemindar above them, or a krishan, or sub-holder, or laborer of any sort under them. It is just possible that there may be a few solitary instances of such a holding within the district, but they have not been remarked, and enquiry has failed to show that they exist. There are a large number of holders of rent-free land in the district, but the almost invariable custom is for the proprietors either to sub-let, or to cultivate, the land by means of "halves" (অধিষর), a sort of metayer tenantry. The rent-free tenure having had its origin chiefly in endowments for religious or charitable objects, or in land reserved by the zemindars as a sort of perquisite, or in land granted in consideration of the performances of certain services, the holders generally are not of the class of persons likely to hold their own plough. As regards the chakeran land, indeed they hardly come within the scope of the question, as the performance of service is only one mode of paying rent; and indeed, in most instances,

the performance of service is considered only to give a claim to a reduction in the rate of rent paid in money or in kind, and not entirely to supersede it.

Two rupees a head (counting two children as one person) would seem to be a sufficient allowance for a ryot to support his household in moderate comfort. Taking the family to consist of three grown-up persons and two children, this would represent a monthly sum of Rs. 8.

The domestic animals of this district are the elephant, the horse, the ass, the buffaloe, the ox, the goat, the sheep, the pig, the dog, the cat, and the common fowl. The elephants are somewhat numerous, being possessed by most zemindars, and by some being caught in the hills of Gowalparah, or in the Dooars. In former days a large number of them were annually so caught, and made over to Government in payment of the land revenue of certain of the zemindars whose estates bordered on Cooch Behar and Bhootan. They were then sold by the Collector, at times bringing prices averaging only Rs. 50. This practice, however, has long been discontinued, and the revenue paid in cash. Horses are not plentiful, nor good of their kind, except now that dealers, at the time of the great fairs being held, begin to bring fair ones from up-country, and sometimes succeed in making sales. The Bhootea ponies have long been famed, though not now held in their former estimation, as it is supposed the race has somewhat deteriorated. They are still, however, brought down to this district by the Bhooteas in their annual visit to Rungpore—visits which they have continued to make since before the day of Lord Cornwallis. Munnipuri ponies, too, are easily obtainable, and often brought in herds to the district. Buffaloes are comparatively scarce in Rungpore, and the domesticated ones are not of a very superior kind. They are not reared in the district, but herds of them are brought from Purneah and other districts at times for sale. Many fine, powerful oxen are to be seen in the district, but the best are those imported. On the other hand, there is some export of oxen from Rungpore to Assam. Perhaps as many as 60 pair may be shipped at Kallygunge in the course of the year. The price of an average cow is Rs. 15, of a pair of good bullocks Rs. 40, of a pair of buffaloes Rs. 56, of a score of country sheep Rs. 30, of a score of Patna sheep Rs. 60 to 75, of a score of six month kids Rs. 15, of full-grown pigs Rs. 140. Except as mentioned above, this is not a breeding district for the purposes of exportation, and the internal trade in cattle is very limited; country sheep are scarce, and not very good of their kind. A full-sized one bought singly will cost about Rs. 2. The price of murghis is unfortunately high, only four tolerable ones being given for a rupee. Fish is plentiful near the large rivers, but from these the greater part of the district is too remote to allow the people to have them fresh; and it is melancholy to see the vast quantities of fish apparently in a putrefying state which goes to market. This is, perhaps, to be accounted for by the exorbitant price of salt, which is prohibitory of its being used for the purpose of curing food. Long use, too, has perhaps induced the people to regard the high taste of the fish as a relish to their food.

The plough of land, as before explained, is in this district generally taken to represent from 10 to 11 standard beegahs, or about 3½ standard acres. With a light soil, strong oxen, and active cultivation however, the plough of land may extend to as much as 15 beegahs, or about 5 standard acres. About Rs. 40 would represent the capital required to till this land, including only one pair of average plough oxen, and irrespective of the seed and ground rent (and a reserve fund for law expenses). The implements required would be as follows, and cost from Rs. 5 to 6:—

1. Lángál লাঙ্গল ... A wooden plough with an iron share. The names of the various parts are—(1) Is ইসা; (2) kholná or phál খোলনা কি ফাল, *i.e.*, the ploughshare; (3) kánta báms কাট বাঁসা; (4) hálkhil হাল খীল; (5) gunti গুঁতি; (6) Pestá পেষ্টা।
2. Jonoyál যোয়াল ... The yoke, with its fittings. The names of its various parts are—(1) salli সল্লী; (2) yukti যুক্তী; (3) nengrá নেঙ্গড়া; (4) Jonoyál kát যোয়াল কাট।
3. Penti পেন্টী ... A stick for driving on the cattle.
4. Bankuá বাঁকুয়া ... A stick carried on the shoulders, and used for bringing the grain off the field.
5. Hát-lángal হাতলাঙ্গল A sort of coarse rake for grubbing up weeds, &c. in the fields. The parts are—(1) Deurá ডেড়া; (2) dant ডাঁট; (3) Khunti খুঁটী.
6. Kursi কুরসী ... A clod crusher or mallet.
7. Pásun পাসুন ... A kind of hoe.
8. Kánchrá or Ká-idá কাঁচিয়া কি কাইদা A kind of sickle.
9. Kodál কোদাল ... A large hoe used instead of a spade.
10. Kudál কুড়াল ... An axe.
11. Dáo দাওয়া Dátra A sort of cleaner for cutting bamboos.
12. Mai মই ... A harrow. It is either (1) eksera এক সিয়া or dosira (দোসিয়া), that is, a single ladder or a double one.
13. Nengrá নেঙ্গড়া ... That by which the harrow is attached to the yoke.

14. Pát পাট ... A scraper for scraping the dhan together.
15. Kaurá-il কাঁড়াইল A kind of hook used for raking straw together.
16. Senti সেঁউতি, or Sati. A basket for watering the fields.
17. Kulá কুলা ... A sort of basket fan for winnowing dhan.
18. Tula or Seer টালা কি সের ... A basket for measuring dhan.
19. Dále ডালি ... A basket for carrying things to and from market, &c.
20. Hat-lángál হাত নাঙ্গল ... An instrument shaped just like the plough but smaller, and not requiring oxen, used by the peasantry in cultivating turmeric, ginger, &c.
21. Bedá or Nanglia... বেদা কি নাঙ্গলিয়া A large grubber, dragged by bullocks.

Of these implements, all but Nos. 10, 11, and 21, would generally be necessaries to a cultivator possessing a single plough of land.

The present rates at which labour is obtainable in this district are as follows:—Coolies 5 to 6 to the rupee, and agricultural day labourers 6 to 7. The monthly wages of blacksmiths vary from Rs. 6 to 8; of carpenters from Rs. 8 to 12: brick-makers are now paid from Rs. 125 to 135 per lakh of bricks moulded and burnt. About ten or twelve years ago, since when the great rise in the price of labour has occurred, 12 to 16 coolies were to be had for the rupee, and 10 to 12 agricultural day labourers. Blacksmiths earned from Rs. 4 to 6 a month, and carpenters Rs. 4 to 6; while the uniform rate at which brick-making was contracted for was Rs. 60 per lakh.

It may not be out of place to give the following estimate of the expenses of cultivating a single beegah of land with the various crops. The rates are calculated on the supposition that hired labour is employed in the cultivation, and include six months' rent:—Aus dhán Rs. 4; hemante dhán Rs. 3; tobacco Rs. 9; sugarcane Rs. 22; mustard seed Rs. 3-4; jute Rs. 5; potatoes Rs. 6-8: ginger Rs. 5; turmeric Rs. 6-8; wheat Rs. 2-12; chillies Rs. 10; pán Rs. 125; betelnut Rs. 5-8; káun Rs. 2-8; chiná Rs. 2-8; thakurkalai As. 12; khasori As. 12; arahur Re. 1-2. In the case of ryots cultivating from 10 to 30 beegahs, with from one to three ploughs, who have not to engage hired labour, the expenses of cultivation would amount barely to one-half of what is mentioned above; their position is superior accordingly.

It is a matter of some difficulty to give a general account of the weights and measures current in this district, from their extreme variety, and from the usage regarding them differing in almost every market-

place. The only feature common to the weights and measures throughout the district is their inaccuracy and the uncertainty of the standard employed.

MEASURES OF TIME.—People of superior education now universally, and people of all classes residing near head-quarters, use the European manner of reckoning time, being led to do so probably by its convenience. The ghantá, or ghari, corresponds to the English hour when used under these circumstances, and the English word minute has been adopted into the language.

60 minutes = 1 ghantá, or ghari ঘণ্টা কি ঘড়ি.
12 ghantá = 1 din দিন.
24 ghantá = 1 din rát দিন রাত.

The old Bengali fashion of reckoning time, however, still prevails with the mass of the agricultural population. Under this system the day is considered to commence at sunrise, and is divided into 4 prohors, or watches, (consisting generally of 3 hours each,) and ends with sunset. When the sun is on the meridian course, it is do-prohor (দুইপ্রহর), or midday. The period from sunrise to noon is called purbbahno (পূর্ব্বাহ্ণ), from noon to sunset, oporahno (অপরাহ্ণ). From 6 to 12 o'clock during the day or night, the time is reckoned from the former hour and expressed as *jaite*. From 12 to 6 it is reckoned backwards from the latter hour, and is distinguished as *thakite*. The former method of reckoning may be continued beyond 12 o'clock, and the latter begun previously to it; but this is not usually done. The former during day time is sometimes called uzani (উজানি), and the latter bhatile (ভাটালা). Thus, der-prohor din jaite, or der-prohor uzani (দেড় প্রহর দিন যাইতে, কি দেড় প্রহর উজানি), means about 10-30 A.M., der-prohor din thakite, or der-prohor bhatile (দেড় প্রহর দিন থাকিতে কি দেড় প্রহর ভাটীল), means about 1-30 P.M.; and similarly, der-prohor rat jaite (দেড় প্রহর রাত্র যাইতে), and der-prohor rat thakite (দেড় প্রহর রাত্রি থাকিতে, means 10-30 A.M. and 1-30. A.M., respectively, while do-prohor rat would mean midnight.

৬০ বিপল	60 bipal	= 1 pal	পল.
৬০ লপ	60 pal	= 1 danda	দণ্ড.
৬০ দণ্ড	60 danda	= 1 diba rat	দিবা রাত্র.
$7\frac{1}{2}$ dandas or ghari	দণ্ড কি ঘড়ি	= 1 prohor or par	প্রহর কি পর.
4 prohor or par	প্রহর	= 1 din, or 1 rat	দিন রাত.
8 prohor	প্রহর	= 1 diba rat	দিবা রাত্র।

WEIGHTS.—There is an infinite variety in the weights used in this district, these differing as well according to the locality as to the substance weighed, and the usages of the trade. The rati (রতি), or seed of the

abrus precatorius, is said to be the basis of weights for gold, silver, and drugs. The seed itself averages about $1\frac{1}{16}$ of a grain, but the artificial rati (রতি), or ratika (রতিকা), should be double that weight, but in common use it averages nearly two grains and a quarter.

4 dhâns ধান = 1 rati রতি.

8 ratis রতি = 1 máshá মাসা.

12 máshás মাসা = 1 tola of 180 grs. (Troy) তোলা.

This is the standard tola as laid down by Regulation VII. of 1833; but the tola most commonly recognized previously in this district, and on which the weights and measures must, in many instances, be founded, was the weight of the sicca rupee, which, when new, should weigh only 179,666 Troy grains. As the current silver coin of the realm has commonly been used as the basis of weights and measures in India, the extreme diversity of the standards of this district may in part be accounted for by the debased nature of the coin in this district some 90 years ago. In 1787 there was no copper coin whatever in circulation in the district, its place to some extent being supplied by cowries. There were some 12 lacs of narainy half rupees in circulation; but these were so debased that in 1785 Government had to sell off an accumulation of them at this treasury at the rate of 400 half rupees for 100 Calcutta sicca rupees. They would circulate only in Assam, Cooch Behar (the place of their coinage), Bhootan, and the eastern districts, and exchanged generally at the rate of 273 half rupees for 100 Calcutta sicca rupees. The narainy whole rupees were neither coined then, nor in circulation. The only whole rupee, indeed, generally current in the district was the Francissi or French arcot, (coined at Pondicherry), but this was so much clipt as to be worth only from nine annas upwards. Of this, two lacs were estimated to be in circulation in 1787. A year or two later, we find mention of the sonat rupee being in circulation at a discount of one anna, and of small quantities of inferior kinds of rupees called jusbee, gursal, and oosoolee, being current at a discount of $4\frac{1}{10}$, $5\frac{1}{16}$, and $6\frac{1}{16}$ annas, respectively. In this debased state of the coinage uniformity in weights and measures was not to be expected, the basis of these being the weight of the rupee or tola.

5 tola তোলা	=	1 chittack ছটা.
16 chittack ছটাক	=	1 seer সের.
40 seer সের	=	1 mun মণ = 100 Troy pounds.

These given are the standard weights, which, however, have not at all generally been adopted. The table more generally used is as follows:—

80 rati রতি	=	1 tola তোলা.
60 tola তোলা	=	1 kacha seer কাঁচা সের.
90 tola তোলা	=	1 paka ser পাকা সের.
5 ser সের	=	1 dhara ধাড়া.
8 dhara ধাড়া	=	1 mun মণ.

To the west of the Jabuneswari the kacha seer is the one most generally employed, and by it grain, &c., is measured. To the east however, and especially in the neighbourhood of head-quarters, the pucka seer of 90 tolas occupies its position. The seer, however, varies in the different markets. Thus we have 58, 60, 72, 80, 82/10, 84, 87, 90, and 480 tolas, to the seer. The last is called kálá chándí ojun, and is used for tobacoo about Kulaghat (কুলাঘাট). Oil is generally, and silk uniformly, weighed by the seer of 72 tolas; cotton, thread, &c., by the kacha seer of 60 tolas. In selling grain in some places there prevails a practice of reckoning more tolas to the seer at harvest time, instead of diminishing the price nominally. It is very customary, however, to measure grain, &c. in baskets, which are supposed to contain some definite number of local seers. The basket for measuring dhan and other produce is called katha (কাঠা). Of these, some contain $1\frac{1}{4}$ seer, some $2\frac{1}{2}$. According to Wilson they should contain 5 seers.

Capacity.

20 katha (কাঠা) = 1 bis বিশ.

16 bis (বিশ) = 1 puti পুটি.

In some parts of the west of the district the measure is called a don (দোনদ্রোন), and contains $1\frac{1}{3}$ kacha seer, while a larger don contains 4 similar seers. Then—

20 don (দোন) = 1 bisi বিসী.

16 bisi (বিসী) = 1 pauti or puthi পুটি কি পুঠী.

(According to Wilson, a drona, = $\frac{1}{16}$ khara or $\frac{1}{16}$ bushel). Oil is measured in a vessel called a tank (টাঁক), holding sometimes 4 seers, sometimes $\frac{1}{2}$ a mun. The mun in measuring oil contains 48 seers (of 72 weight): milk and other similar substances are measured in a vessel called a ghati (ঘাটি), which in some places contains $\frac{1}{2}$ a seer, in some 1 seer, and in others $2\frac{1}{2}$ seers (80 weight).

Large fishes are sold wholesale so much each (gotá গোটা), so much for 5 (hali হালি), for a score (kuri কুড়ি), or for 80 (pon পোন.) Retail they are sold so much a slice (chaka চাকা), and 2 chaka= 1 jora (জোড়া). Turkári is sold wholesale per big basket (chupari চাপড়ি), per score (kuri কুড়ি), per hundred (sut kura শতকরা), or for five (háli হালি.) Pan is sold retail so much for four (gundi গণ্ডি), wholesale by the nominal hundred of 20 gunda (গণ্ডা), or 80 (ek suta এক শত). Then—

12 hundred = 1 poá পোয়া.

24 hundred = 1 ád bis আদ বিশ.

48 hundred = 1 bis এক বিশ.

Dry betelnut, supari (সুপারি), is sold by weight; undried betelnut, guya (গুয়া) is sold as follows:—

10 nuts	=	1 ga গা, or 5 gunda গণ্ডা	= 1 buri বুড়ি.
10 ga	=	ad bisi আদ বিশ 4 buri	= 1 pun পোণ.
20 ga	=	1 bisi বিশি 16 pun	= 1 kahan কহাণ.

Mangoes are sold by the nominal hundred of 120. Cocoanuts by the brace.

Length. The following is the recognized table of long measure:—

3 barleycorns	= 1 digit (or angut) আঙ্গুট.
4 digits	= 1 palm mist (or mushti) মুট মুষ্ট.
6 palms	= 1 cubit, hât or hast হাত কি হস্ত.
4 cubits	= 1 guthone or bow, dhenu (ধনু).
100 bows	= 1 kos ক্রোশ

This, however, is hardly adhered to; the mass of the people, in estimating length, use only indefinite terms roughly expressive of their meaning. A hât (হাত) is the length of an ordinary man's fore-arm: a russi or chain generally means about 50 yards: a tir or bowshot about eighty. A kos is generally understood to mean what a man can walk in two dandas. Every pergunnah has its own standard of measurement, and in some pergunnahs the standard is not uniform. (In some it is a recognized practice for the superior tenants to use a shorter chain in measuring the lands of their under-tenants than that used by their own zemindars.) The general unit in land measure is the dast or cubit; this generally having been taken in former times on a general measurement taking place from the zemindar for the time being. Now-a-days, however, the standard rod of the pergunnah is not supposed to be liable to change. It either represents the cubit, or (as in most cases) the yard, guj, or dirra, derived from the cubit. A statement is annexed, showing the mode of measurement and the standard adopted in most of the pergunnahs of this district. The following are specimens of some tables of measurement recorded some eighty years since:—

Pergunnah Cazeerhat,	10½ musht	=	1 guj or yard.
কাজির হাঠ	10 guj	=	1 phul.
	10 phul	=	1 chain or russi.
	Guj delivered 34-in.		40 guj × 40 guj = 1 don.
Pergunnah Kundi,	10 musht	=	1 guj.
কুণ্ডি	10 guj	=	1 phul.
	10 phul	=	1 russi.
	Guj delivered 32-in.		40 guj × 40 guj = 1 don.

Pergunnah Ambari, 110 hats of 18½ inches = 1 beegah russi.
Chakla Goraghat ঘোড়া ঘাট.

A.—For pali mehals, *i.e.*, land of a soft, sandy soil, producing all kinds of crops.

4	angli	=	1	musht.
6	musht	=	1	dast.
10	musht	=	1¾	dast=1 dirra.
52	dirra	=	91	dast=1 russi.

B.—For khear mehals, *i.e.*, land of a hard, stiff soil, producing winter rice only.

1¼	dast	=	1	dirra.
48	dirra	=	84	dast=1 russi.

The dast referred to is that of Rajah Gournath (1778).

Square measure.

The length of the chain being determined, the unit of assessment was at once ascertainable. This being the square chain, called in some pergunnahs the beegah; in others the don (দোন দোন). The latter corresponds exactly to the standard beegah of 1,600 square yards, and is the measurement used in all those pergunnahs of this district which fell within the ancient territory called Konchwárá, probably from being subject to the dominion of the Konch Rajah.

9 sq. ft.	= 1 sq. yard (বর্গ গজ)	=	1	karâ (কড়া) or couri.
	4 karâ	=	1	gunda (গণ্ডা).
	25 gunda	=	1	káli or kaní (কালি).
	16 káli	=	1	don (দোন).
	20 don	=	1	bis (বিশ).
	16 bis	=	1	gawo (গাও).

Note.—The guj now (1870) filed in collectorate is only 29¾ inches.

In the other pergunnahs of the district, as elsewhere in Bengal, the beegah is the measure commonly used.

9 sq. ft. =	1 sqr. yard (বর্গ গজ)	=	1	karâ.
	4 karâ	=	1	gúndá.
	20 gundá	=	1	kathá কাঠা.
	20 kathá	=	1	beegah বিঘা.

Whence 13 kathá = 1 don and 13 beegah = 1 bis.

Standard Land Measure of the principal Pergunnahs of Rungpore.

Names of Pergunnahs.	Length of standard rod filed in Collectorate.	Length of cham used.	Mode of measurement current.
	ft.	y. ft. in.	
Chakla Kánkinia কাকিনা ...	2	35 2 6	don, bisi, &c.
Pergunnah Pánga পাঙ্গা ...	2 7¼	35 0 10	„ „
„ Kabilpur কাবিল পুর ...	2 6¼	34 0 6	„ „
Chakla Purbbhag চাকলে পূর্ব্ব ভাগ ...	3 0¾	40 2 6	„ „
Pergunnah Monthana মথনা ...	2 7	34 1 4	„ „
„ Basatti বাসত্তী ...	2 6¼	33 1 10	„ „
Chakla Cazeerhát কাজির হাট	2 10	37 2 4	„ „
„ Tepá টেপা ...	2 8½	36 0 4	„ „
„ Bhitarbund ভিতরবন্দ ...	2 11	38 2 8	„ „
„ Bámandánga বামন ডাঙ্গা...	2 8½	36 0 4	„ „
„ Udàsi উদাসি ...	2 7	34 1 4	„ „
Chakla Futtehpur, 3¼ annas ... চাকলে ফতেপুর ৶১০ আনা	2 6¼	34 0 6	„ „
Pergunnah Swaruppur স্বরূপপুর...	2 10½	18 0 8	bigah, kathá, &c.
„ Amdahar আমডহর ...	1 8¼	48 4 5¼	„ „
„ Payrábund পায়রাবন্দ ...	1 8½	48 4 7½	„ „
„ Barabilla বড়বিলা ...	1 8½	48 4 7½	„ „
Kismat Patiladaha পাতিলাদহ ...	1 7	42 0 8	„ „
Pergunnah Báhirbund বাহেরবন্দ ..	2 11	54 1 4	„ „
„ Gayábári গয়বাড়ি ...	2 11	38 2 8	don, bisi.

There does not appear to be any marked tendency towards the growth of a distinct class of day labourer in this district, neither possessing nor renting land. There is, indeed, a considerable body of men known by the name of Nagur (নগর), many of whom indeed do not hold any land; but the rule is otherwise. The majority of them have small holdings, ranging from 6 beegahs downwards. It may be that the labourer gives his spare time to his little plot of ground, if he lives in

his own house; but if he hold more than two beegahs, which it is said fully thirty per cent. of them do, it is more usual for him to make it over to a neighbour to cultivate, he stipulating for a half share in the crops. Of the labouring class, those who are employed as farm servants are called krishán. These, in general, live in their master's house, and are fed by him. The engagements may be monthly or yearly. In the latter case, the usual rate of pay is from Rs. 16 to 30 a year (which varies from 12 to 15 months), besides food. In the former, from Rs. 1-8 to 2 a month, on the same terms. Daily farm servants are called nugdá krishán (কৃষাণ), but the class has not yet become remarkable. It is not an unusual thing in this district for a man to borrow a sum of money, and then to work off the debt by his pledged labour; and instances occur in which men even work off debts thus contracted by their parents. It is not unusual in hiring the krishán to advance him some Rs. 18, and then to pay him diet money (খোরাকি) at the rate of Re. 1-8 a month, besides giving him a meal a day. The krisháns have no claim whatever to a share in the crop, nor is it usual to remunerate them with its produce. This leads us to consider a much more important body of cultivators in this district, the adhiyars (আধিয়ার), a sort of metayer tenantry. The adhiyar may have a holding of his own; indeed they generally have a little plot round their houses, on which they rear the castor-oil plant, or tobacco, or vegetables of some kind; but their chief subsistence is gained by cultivating the lands of others. A large class of people in this district hold land, which their position or caste prejudice preclude them from cultivating themselves; such are, the zemindars who hold their khámár (খামার) or private land, and all the priestly or quasi-priestly classes, in possession of brahmuttar, debuttar, or other lands granted as endowments rent-free. These, as well as much land of other kinds which regard to convenience may cause to be treated in the same way, are made over to the adhiyar to cultivate, on condition that he give the holder of the land half the produce. The minor conditions vary according to circumstances. It is usual for the owner to supply the seed; and the general rule is, that in the first instance twice the amount of seed advanced must be deducted from the produce and made over to him who advanced it, and the remainder only then divided. In some places it is the custom for the landlord, if he advance the seed, to be entitled to a half share of the straw, and otherwise to have no interest in it, but only in the grain. From a passage in the records of 1790, it would seem that the condition of the adhiyar then was somewhat worse than it now is; for in one pergunnah, at least, it was then the custom for the landlord in the first place to exact a considerable portion of the crop from the adhiyar over and above what fell to him if he advanced the seed, and then to go share and share with him in the remainder, leaving the cultivator ultimately with only of the one-fourth out-turn of the crop. The cattle generally belong to the adhiyar.

Women and children are very sparingly employed in cultivating the fields in this district. The former are sometimes to be seen weeding the little plots of ground near their houses. Boys are employed in harvest time to some extent in carrying in from the field the grain, which does not ever appear to be brought in carts, and from a very early age they go out into the fields with their fathers to learn how to plough and till the land, though the work they do is inconsiderable.

The ut-bandi and the jamai tenures are not known in this district. Except what is covered with jungle, and the poor land on some of the large churs, there is but little spare land in the district. The cultivation here, indeed, seems to be wonderfully close; and the high price of milk, the number of cattle tied to graze on the roads, and the frequency of pound cases, show that even grazing lands are very scarce indeed. It is said that the restless spirit of the ryots, and their desire for change, has some effect in always keeping some land available for settlement; and this is probably so.

The tenures in this district are in no way peculiar, and require no description beyond the names by which their holders are known: (1) patnidar, (2) darpatnidar, (3) izaradár, (4) jotedar, who may hold either at fixed rates a upanchaki jote (উপঞ্চকি জোত), which is otherwise known as a mokorarí, or istemrárí, or mourásí jót (মোকররি এস্তমরার কি মৌরসি জোত)—such a jotedar is in some parts of the district called a chukánidár—or at rates liable to variation, a sarasarí jote (সরা সরি জোত). In some parts of this district the jotedars have very large holdings, and indeed are petty zemindars, having under them under-tenants (korpá prajá), who are also in some parts of the district called chukánidárs. It is estimated that 30 per cent. of the land in this district has passed from the hands of the zemindar into those of intermediate holders, mostly to jotedárs known in law as middle men. Especially to the east of this district very large tenures held by such jotedars exist.

Under the Mahommedan Government, the rule of assessment of the Government revenue in the district of Bengal appears to have been that its amount as settled for each piece of land should be determined at the pergunnah rates, according to the nature of the soil, the species and the extent of the cultivation on it, and the position of the cultivator; *i.e.*, according as he was paikhást or khudkhast. In fact, however, in this district, this rule was subject to endless variation, according to the immemorial usage of different pergunnahs, or rather according to the multiplicity of usages current in different villages in the same pergunnah. The rates being once fixed on measurement were not supposed to be liable to change; but it was supposed that a yearly survey should be made to ascertain what extension or diminution had taken place in the lands under cultivation, and what change had been made in the produce cultivated, the rent-roll being revised accordingly. As naturally might be supposed, such a system was never strictly adhered to; and it is now proposed, by way of illustration, to give some account of matters as they in fact existed in a large village in this district some 85 years ago, previous to the decennial settlement.

In the first place, the following statement shows the extent of the village lands as ascertained on actual measurement in 1196, and the classification as then found to exist. Second, next is given a statement of the rates of rent extracted from the jummabundi of 1195. Third, next a statement of the actual rents paid by the ryots in 1196; and a calculation of the rates per beegah on the land as entered in the zemindary accounts, as well as on the land actually found to be possessed by the ryots on measurement. It is to be observed that the local beegah exceeds the standard beegah by a little more than 15 katas. The proportion is taken as 7-4. It is very important to observe that the rates given in Table II represent only what is called the assil or original rent, or, in other words, the nucleus of assessment, and by no means gives an idea of what actually was paid by the ryots. When—many years previously to the period to which these tables refer—a general measurement was made in the pergunnah of Swaruppur, this assil jummah (আসল জমা) was assessed on the lands found in cultivation at different rates according to the fasl (ফসল) or crop cultivated. Probably, some regard was shown to the quality of the soil cultivated, but in succeeding years this consideration appears to have been completely overlooked. It is not ascertainable whether the rates were then adjusted according to former usage, or whether they were assessed according to a new valuation. For some years an annual survey and revision of the rent-roll, in the manner above referred to, was made, but latterly detailed enquiries ceased to be made, and little attention was paid to the quantity of land under cultivation, and scarcely any to the amount of produce. The settlement came to be made for the villages in the pergunnah collectively, and the engagements for the rent were either signed by a few of the principal ryots of the village, or were entered into by farmers of villages called zemmahdars (জিম্মাদার), or elsewhere concluded with what were called huzuri jotedars (হজুরি জোতদার). The amount of rent payable by a village was determined merely by a rough estimate, and left to be apportioned among the ryots by the village ameens, who were supposed to continue to make the assil jummah (আসল জমা) the standard for their proceedings. The opening, however, which such a system gave to venality and fraud was not neglected. The rents naturally were enhanced of those who had found no favor with the ameen, or who could not make it his interest to show them some consideration, while those whose position or means gave them influence were sure to exercise it in their own favor. Thus the standard of assessment was altered and reduced, and complaints of partiality of the assessment and demand for a new measurement and valuation were frequent; and to stave off these, the zemindar would frequently reduce the higher rate of the assil in favor of particular applicants. It was not unusual, too, for the ryots to come to an agreement among themselves in favor of some of their number who might seem to be overassessed. This might be considered a sufficient reason for a reduction in the assessment of such individuals, but the more usual course was to grant them as compensation a piece of land called chukani (চুকানি) at

a low fixed rate, in addition to the other land held by them, the assessment on which was allowed to remain unaltered. At times, too, a more enlightened spirit would prevail, and reductions would be made in the rate in particular cases to encourage an extension of cultivation. Thus it came that in one village from ten to twenty rates would prevail, and that these might have no obvious connection either with the quality of the soil cultivated, or the crop raised upon it; and finally, the assil or original and standard rates came to be wholly unattended to, and all mention of them even omitted by the zemindar in his actual settlement. The rent of the huzuri jotedars and zemmahdars likewise was fixed on an estimate, and all mention of the assil jummah omitted in their tahuds, as in the instance given in Table III.; the reason given being that the settlement was tahudi (তাহুদি).

As before stated, the assil was only the nucleus of the assessment. It served as the foundation for, or the exaction of, (1) abwabs (আবুআব), or established cesses; (2) mâthut, or occasional imposts; and (3) kharch, or contribution to the expense of managing the zemindari. In some villages the latter was replaced by what was called andazi beshi (আন্দাজি বেসি), or estimated increment, which was supposed to be founded on a rough cultivation of the increase of cultivation, &c., which could accurately be ascertained only by that annual survey which had been discontinued. These imposts might, or might not, result from the exaction or imposition of similar ones by the Government upon the zemindars. Examples of the manner in which they were assessed on an assil jummah of Rs. 100 are given in Table IV. As a further explanation of the manner in which money was exacted from the ryots, some of the headings under which the zemindar of the pergunnah collected his revenue are extracted from the zemindari accounts and explained. In the assessment, as stated in the abstract jumma-wasil-baki for 1194, are included two heads: (1) durbar kharch (দরবার খরচ) and nazar salami (নজর সালামি), and (2) grâm taki. The durbar kharch is explained to be sums expended by the ryots at Bamagar, the residence of the some time zemindar, Ranee Bhawani, either in presents to the amlah or for their private charges whilst there: the nazar salami to be a present to the zemindar in the year 1193. Neither of these articles appear to have been included in the assessment previous to 1191, and the zemindar's agent was not ashamed to admit that they had been unjustly exacted. The grâm taki was collected as contribution for the several villages to Chand Thakur in 1193, and, similarly, afterwards added to swell the rental. The following are the chief heads of receipt in the pergunnah cash account for the same year, over and above the ground rents paid by the ryots:—

1. Mufussali bazi jummah (মফস্বলি বাজে জমা), sicca Rs. 171-4-4, said to consist of the following six items:—

(a.) Gurgachh salami (গুড়গাছ সেলামি), a fixed fee paid by certain ryots for their sugarcane presses, which is from usage due, whether they work their presses or not.

(*b.*) Nai salami (নাই সেলামি), a customary fee paid by certain barbers of some village for the privilege of exercising their profession. The ryots choose and remove the barber at pleasure.

(*c.*) Durji salami (দরজি সেলামি), a similar customary fee paid by tailors of a few villages.

(*d.*) Mâthut (মাথোট), a fixed and trivial impost contributed by the ryots of a few villages; origin unknown.

(*e.*) Cowrie sokht (কড়িসক্তো), estimated gain from the sale of cowries received on account of the rents of some villages. If cowries be received, and the sale of them produce a profit adequate to the fixed jummah, nothing on this ground was levied from the ryots; otherwise the jummah was made good by a general contribution.

(*f.*) Pushkarni muski and jhon bikri (জনবিক্রি), a fixed jummah on account of fish caught in tanks or thrown up in the channels made for watering the ground (not included in the jâlkar). In some places, the village ameen used to take the fish and sell them; in others, the ryots used to take them and pay the fixed jummah.

2. Phalkur (ফলকর), a small item not exceeding sicca Rs. 70, being fixed payment on account of fruit trees.

3. Maina kroki (মাহিনা ক্রোকি), an impost of about Rs. 740, added in the time of Rance Bhawani to compensate for some reductions made in Mofussil sirangami মফস্বল সরঞ্জামি.

4. Sayer (সায়ের) duties collected in gunges, hâts, and bazars (গঞ্জ হাট ও বাজার), and the rent paid for fisheries about sicca Rs. 1,242.

5. Sudder bazi jummah (সদর বাজে জমা);—

(*a.*) Kitabut bukshi (কেতাবত বকসী) amounting to sicca Rs. 52, or that collected by the bukshi (বকসী) and consisting of the following items:—(1) Jajman salami (জজমান সালামি), a fixed fee paid by the puruhit or ministerial brahmin of the Sahoos, an inferior caste of Hindus; (2) Mulla salami (মোল্লা সালামি), an annual fee paid by the kazi (কাজি); (3) Fati (ফতেহ্), escheats on death without heirs; (4) Illak, fee taken (though prohibited) on causes decided from the party cast.

(*b.*) Huzuri bazi jummah (হজুরি বাজেজমা), amounting to sicca Rs. 68, paid in at the sudder pergunnah cutcherry comprising (1) punnia salami (পুণ্যাহ সালামি), customary presents to the zemindar on settling day; (2) gachh bikri (গাছ বিক্রি), price of trees belonging to the zemindar; (3) gurgachh salami (গুড়গাছ সাল মি', an annual fee on the sugarcane presses of such ryots as have been accustomed to pay them; (4) dewalia salami (দেওয়ালি সেলামি), an annual fee paid by the jagheer dewalias, who repair the cutcherry buildings, conduct the treasure to Rungpore, and perform other services: (5) darji salami, fee paid by jagheer tailors; (6) bibaher maroch (বিবাহের মাড়চা), an inconsiderable fee levied on marriages.

6. Mâthut (মাথট), an assessment on the ryots, in addition to the tahud jummah, levied to defray various articles of expense below, particularized and fluctuating in its amount according to the expense incurred. Sicca Rs. 1,051-15-11.

(*a*) Thakur Seba (ঠাকুর শিবা), expenses of different Hindu festivals.

(*b.*) Pir serni (পির সিন্নি) offerings to Mussulman saints.

(*c.*) Amudruft kharch (আমদ রপ্ত খরচ), travelling charges of amlah.

(*d.*) Keharun (কাহারান), diet-money of jaghir bearers when employed by the naib, &c.

(*e.*) Khairat, charitable presents to old servants, &c.

(*f.*) Atitan (অতিতান), charitable presents to travellers and mendicants.

(*g.*) Seropa kharch(সিরোপা খরচ), diet-money given to persons employed to bring cloths, &c., given to the ryots.

(*h.*) Fouzdari kharch (ফৌজদারী খরচ), expense attending the apprehension of dacoits.

(*i.*) Beri kharch (বেড়ীখরচ), expense of making feet irons.

(*j.*) Naksha kharch (নকসা খরচ), expense of making a survey of the pergunnah.

(*k.*) Contingent expenses at hâts.

(*l.*) Presents to the naib on conveying the settlement papers to Rungpore, and his travelling expenses.

(*m.*) Expenses of singers at the temple of Sham Rai.

(*n.*) Petty contingencies at the cutcherry.

(*o.*) Rayan kharch (রেয়ান খরচ), expense of provisions given to ryots.

(*p.*) Expenses on the dol-jatra at sukrat festival, presents to Sham Rai, &c. (শ্যাম রায়).

(q.) Sahiban kharch (সাহেবান খরচ), fruit sent to Rungpore on Christmas and New Year's Day and diet-money of the coolies conveying it.

7. Barbardari (বারবর দারি). The expenses of the naib on visiting the pergunnah assessed by the principal ryots on the whole tenantry, sicca Rs. 2,421.

8. Seropa nazar (শিরোপা নজর), voluntary presents to the zemindar in return for shawls, cloths, turbans, &c., bestowed, sicca Rs. 839.

9. Butta (বাটা). Gain on the exchange of rupees. Sicca Rs. 17.

To give a correct idea of the proportion borne by these cesses to the rental of the zemindar, it is proper to state that for the whole pergunnah his receipts (irrespective of money borrowed and of the income derived from his private lands) are said to have amounted for the year 1194 to sicca Rs. 55,201-0-3.

Further, to elucidate the proportion of the rental to the actual produce of the pergunnah, two more tables are appended (Nos. V and VI). The first is a statement as made at the time of the produce of the land in the six principal crops grown in the pergunnah, said to amount to four-fifths of the total cultivation, the result for standard beegahs and coin being added. The prices are said to be the average for three years of those current in the various hâts; but one of these, it must be remarked, was a year of considerable scarcity. The extent of the land of the first, second, and third quality, is assumed as the same; but it stated that in the pergunnah there was a greater extent of the first quality than of the second, and of the second than of the third. In the next table two ploughs of land are taken, and the proportion under each crop, assumed as a fair average from observation, stated, with the resulting value of produce, which also is exhibited in the standard measure.

These results, as gathered for the pergunnah of Svaruppur from the investigations held there prior to the formation of the decennial settlement, may be taken as a fair example of the state of matters as they existed in this district at that period. The zemindars of the rest of the district having been unfortunately engaged on the terms offered them, detailed investigations were not necessary elsewhere; and the early vernacular records of this district having been destroyed by fire, it is very difficult to gain authentic information concerning the settlement at this period so far as regards the cultivators.

A large number of schedules of rates, or nirikh namas (নিরিখ নামা), exist in the collectorate, having apparently been filed by the Kanoongoes about the year 1828. They exist for all the pergunnahs, giving the rates of each village; but some from decay are almost valueless. The date to which the papers refer is not specified, but they appear to refer to a time not long subsequent to the permanent settlement. By that time the practice of making faslwari settlements (ফসলওয়ারি), *i.e.* settlement at rates depending on the article cultivated, appears to have been very generally abandoned, and the rates were determined by the

quality of the soil, which was classed variously in the different pergunnahs, and even in the different villages of the same pergunnah. It still, however, continued customary to charge at higher rates for the more remunerative crops, and for homestead land. Thus, almost everywhere where sugarcane, bamboos, pân-gardens, betel trees, and tobacco, were grown, we find them separately entered in the schedules, though these crops do not necessarily require a different soil from some others not so separately rated. Again, we often find more than one kind of homestead land,—that occupied by inferior tenants being charged at somewhat less rates than that on which the ryot himself dwelt. Specimens of the manner in which the land is rated in these schedules are given below for the principal pergunnahs in the district. It cannot be supposed, however, that these truly indicate the position of the ryots. One cannot think that the zemindars all at once ceased to exact those imposts to which the ryots had been so long subject; indeed it is known that too many of them continue to be levied to the present day, and that old imposts have even been supplemented by new ones. When, however, the Government at the permanent settlement transferred a large share of its zemindary rights to the then collectors of its revenue, it gave up, or at least ceased to exercise, its right of inquiry into the working of the system under the zemindars; and the consequence is, that there are no results of detailed inquiries to guide us further in this investigation. Information has been sought from all the principal landholders and managers in the district; but the inquiries as regards rental have met with very sparing and inexact replies; and this indeed is not a subject for wonder at a time when the income-tax gatherers are scouring every part of the district. No doubt much valuable information lies hid in many zemindary cutcherries, but it will require more than moral influence to bring it out.

TABLE I.

Classification of Lands of Mouzah Radhánágar, in Pergunnah Svaruppur, as found on measurement in the year 1790, Zamin Rakba, or total land 5,041 beegah 3 kattás, L. M.

				B.	K.
1	Parti	পড়তি ...	Waste unoccupied land ...	846	1
(a.)	Laik parti	লায়েক পড়তি ...	That fit for cultivation ...	246	8
α	Son parti	সন পড়তি ...	One year unoccupied ...	2	1
β	Do son parti	দো সন পড়তি ...	Two years unoccupied ...	11	10
γ	Sanat parti	সনাত পড়তি ...	Several ditto ...	232	17
(b.)	Ghair laik parti	গায়ের লায়ক পড়তি ...	That unfit for cultivation ...	599	3
α	Rasta	রাস্তা ...	Roads, paths, and ditches ...	50	3
β	Jungal	জঙ্গল ...	Forest and high grazing lands ...	215	4
γ	Pushkarni	পুষ্করিণী ...	Tanks and banks of tanks ...	11	12
δ	Khandak	খন্দক	Pits	0	4
ε	Nadi	নদী ...	Beds and banks of rivers ...	150	0
ζ	Biljulaganda	বিলজলগণ্ড ...	Perennial lake	150	0
η	Balukur	বালুকর ...	River sand-banks	13	0
2	Baki hasil	বাকি হাসেল ...	Remaining productive lands ...	4,195	2
(a.)	Bazi zamin	বাজে জমী ...	As specified below	1,121	12
α	Ghairbullanneo	গায়েরবোলানি...	... ...	579	12
1	Brahmuttar	ব্রহ্মত্তর ...	Lands bestowed on Brahmins ...	413	17
2	Debuttar	দেবত্তর ...	Endowed for religious purposes ...	6	14
3	Kasi birta	কাশী বৃত্ত ...	Lands assigned for religious and charitable expenses at Benares...	167	7
4	Pirpal	পীরপাল ...	Lands assigned for the preservation of tombs of Mussulman saints	18	14
5	Lakheraj	লাখেরাজ ...	Lands assigned for the support of different persons	31	17
6	Gram kachari	গ্রাম কাছারি ...	Cutchari compound	1	3

				B.	K
β	Zemidari khamar	জমিদারি খামার	Private land of zemindar ..	179	0
γ	Chakran	চাকরান ...	Lands assigned in lieu of wages as below	383	0
1	Jamai chakran	জমাই চাকরান ...	Assigned land paying rent ...	282	3
2	Bejamai chakran	বেজমাই চাকরান	Ditto paying no rent	80	17
(b)	Baki rayati	বাকি রাইয়তি ...	Remaining land occupied by ryots	3,073	10
α	Khud	খোদ ...	Building land and compounds ...	486	18
β	Bari banda	বাড়ী বন্দ ...	Ditto of principal ryots ...	157	18
γ	Praja bari	প্রজা বাড়ী ...	Ditto of inferior ryots ...	221	4
δ	Khitan khud	ক্ষেতান খোদ ...	Cultivated lands formerly occupied by houses	28	12
ε	Darga bari	দরগা বাড়ী ...	Musulman tomb land subject to rent	2	15
ζ	Darga bari	দরগা বাড়ী ...	Ditto not subject to rent ...	0	13
η	Khana bari	খানা বাড়ী ...	House land rated at a lower rate...	76	6
θ	Baki fusli	বাকী ফসলী ...	Remaining cultivated lands ...	2,586	12
1	Shali do	সালি দো ...	Land producing a crop of aus rice or khuneef and a crop of aman .	383	13
2	Shali lal	সালি লাল ...	Aman rice only	1,216	12
3	Bhadai lal	ভাদাই লাল ...	Bhadar rice only	103	3
4	Buna shali	বুনা সালি ...	Buna rice only	5	18
5	Kati do	কাতি দো ...	A crop of bhadar and a crop of kati rice	6	14
6	Kati lal	কাতি লাল ...	Kati rice only	35	1
7	Sirri do ...	... ...	A crop of bhadar and one of mustard	185	6
8	Sirri lal ...	... ...	Mustard only	68	2
9	Tamaku do	তামাকু দো ...	Bhadar rice and tobacco ...	0	13
10	Ukh	ইক্ষু ...	Sugarcane only	13	8
12	Tût	তুঁত ...	Mulberry only	16	0

				B.	K.
13	Urhar	অরহর ..	Urhur only	64	16
14	Thakuri do	ঠাকুরিকালাই দো	Bhadar rice and kalai ..	6	5
15	Thakuri lal	ঠাকুরি লাল .	Kalai only	58	10
16	Burbuti do	বরবটি দো	Burbuti only	0	16
17	Gom do	গম দো .	A crop of bhadar rice and one of wheat	6	0
18	Gom lal	গম লাল ...	Wheat only	0	0
19	Jau do	জও দো ..	Bhadar rice, then barley ...	34	0
20	Jau lal	জও লাল ...	Barley only	5	12
21	Musur do	মসুর দো .	Bhadar rice, then musur ..	12	19
22	Musur lal	মসুর লাল ...	Musur only	0	12
23	Kapas do	কার্পাস দো ...	Cotton, then Bhadar rice ...	1	17
24	Kapas lal	কার্পাস লাল	Cotton only	3	3
25	Khesari do	খেসারি দো ..	Bhadar rice and khesari ...	3	14
26	Arinda	এরেণ্ডা ...	Castor-oil plant only	0	9
27	Pât	পাট ...	Jute only	0	18
28	Haridra	হরিদ্রা ...	Turmeric only	1	11
29	Til	তিল ...	Sesamum only	4	15
30	Baigun	বাগুন ...	Brinjal only	0	14
31	Kher	খেড় কি খড় ...	Long grass only	14	8
32	Bâns	.. ..	Bamboo only	10	13
33	Kachha deri	কাঁচা দরি ...	Mustard sown on land on which rice seedlings are raised ...	9	14
34	Kachha lal	কাঁচা লাল ...	Aghani rice seedlings only ...	131	5
35	Parti rayati	পড়তি রাইয়তি...	Land held by ryots, but left fallow.	136	8

TABLE II.

Rates of As[illegible] Jummah in Radhanágar, Pergunnah Svaruppur, extracted from the Jamabundi for 1190, 1783-84.

Class of Land.	Number of Fields.	1st Rate per Local Beegah.	2nd Rate per Local Beegah.	3rd Rate per Local Beegah.	Average per Local Beegah.	Average per Standard Beegah.
		Rs. A. G.	Rs. A. G.	Rs. A. G.	S. Rs. A. G. K.	
Khood	24	1 [illegible] 0	1 0 15	1 0 0	0 8 8 2	5·07
Shali lal	14	0 8 0	0 7 15	0 7 0	0 4 17 1	2·90
Kali lal	6	0 4 2	0 4 0	0 3 0	0 2 19 2	1·8
Bhadni	3	0 3 5	0 3 0	0 2 0	0 2 15 0	1·6
Uk	2	0 5 0	0 4 0	0 0 0	0 4 0 10	2·8
Thakuri	6	0 2 5	0 2 0	0 1 15	0 1 0 11	0·11
Serree lal... ...	4	0 5 0	0 4 0	0 3 0	0 3 12 3	2·2
Musur lal ...	1	0 2 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 2 0 0	1·2
Pirjabari... ...	2	0 5 0	0 4 0	0 0 0	0 4 11 0	2·8
Jow lal	2	0 2 0	0 1 0	0 0 0	0 1 0 10	0·11
Arahar	3	0 5 0	0 2 10	0 2 0	0 3 3 1	1·11
Tut	4	0 8 5	0 8 0	0 6 5	0 6 17 1	4·1
Til	1	0 2 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 2 0 0	1·2
Serree do ...	3	0 8 15	0 8 0	0 0 0	0 7 18 1	4·9
Shali do ...	1	0 10 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 10 0 0	6·1
Tamaku... ...	1	0 3 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 3 0 0	1·9
Haridra	1	0 3 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 3 0 0	1·9
Jumá-i-Chakeran ...	7	0 6 12	0 3 2	0 3 2	0 2 19 0	1·8

TABLE III.

Abstract Account of the actual Rates of ... paid by the Ryots of Rádhánagar, as found on measureme... the year 1196 (1789-90).

	Land according to the Dool of 1196.	Land						Rate of Tahud jumma per local beegah as stated in Dool.	Do. on land as ascertained by measurement.	Do. on land as ascertained by measurement per standard beegah.
	Ryoti and Jamai chakeran.	Ryoti.	Jamai chakeran.	Total.	Assessing	Total Tahud according to				
	B. C.	B. C.	B. C.	B. C.	S.R.A.G	S. R. A. G.	S R A G K	S R A G K	S R A G K	R. A. P.
Total ryoti and chakeran land under the village ameen ...	297 8	405 16	201 0	606 16	65 5 19	304 4 5	1 7 2 0 0	8 0 0 0	0 4 11	
Huzuri, Jotedar's ...	1,394 13	2,667 4	74 7	2,741 11	.....	1,245 9 18	0 14 5 3 0	7 5 2 0	0 4 5	
Total Assessed ...	1,692 1	3,073 0	275 7	3,348 7	.....	1,549 14 3	0 14 13 1 0	7 8 1 0	0 4 8	
Unassessed ...	.....	0 10	6 16	7 6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	

TABLE IV.

Nij Pergunnah Svaruppur and Turuff Kálkabári.

	R. A. G. K.	R. A. G. K.	Remarks.
Jummah Khood	6 0 0 0		Called massoorie jummah in the accounts generally.
Chakeran	6 0 0 0		
First Total ...	12 0 0 0		
Fasli or Pan	88 0 0 0		
Second Total ...	100 0 0 0		Assil jummah, including bási jummah and phalkar, if there be any, taken at Rs. 100 one month, or $\frac{1}{12}$th of this is Rs. 8-5-6-3.
Babiana Chauth, &c., 6½ months of second total	52 1 6 3		
Third Total ...	152 1 6 3		
Batta 1½ anna on third total	14 4 2 0		
Fourth Total ...	.....	166 5 8 3	
Mathut, Pustabandi, &c., 4 months on second total with batta at 1½ as. ...	36 6 3 0		
Pergunnah kharch on khud jummah ½ month with batta ...	4 7 2 0		
Tahud Najan, 2½ months on second total without batta	20 13 7 0		
Sáhibán, &c., 2½ months on second total without batta	49 9 7 0		
Total ...	.....	97 1 7 2	
Grand Total ...	S. Rs. ...	263 6 16 1	

Turuff Kanchanhati.

	R. A. G. K.	R. A. G. K.	Remarks.
Khood jummah	6 0 0 0		
Chakeran	6 0 0 0		
First Total ...	12 0 0 0		
Fasli	88 0 0 0		
Second Total ...	100 0 0 0		
Babi ...uth, &c., 6½ months on second total	52 1 6 3		
Third Total ...	152 1 6 3		
Batta 1½ anna	14 4 2 0		
Fourth Total ...	.....	166 5 8 3	
Mathut, Pustbandi, &c., 6½ months ...	52 2 13 1		
Izardari 1 month	8 5 6 3		
Pergunnah kharch ½ month	4 7 2 0		
Batta at 1½ anna	5 14 3 1		
Total ...	68 10 10 3		
Tahud Najau 3 months	25 0 0 0	23 10 10 3	
Grand Total ...	.....	259 15 19 2	

TABLE V.

	Produce of a beegah of first quality.	Produce of a beegah of second quality.	Produce of a beegah of third quality.	Average produce of a beegah.	Estimated value of average produce of a beegah in Sicca Rs.	Estimated value of average produce of a beegah in standard Rs.
	M S(60W.)	M S(60W.)	M S(60W.)	M S(60W.)	R. A.	
1. Shâli or Aghani dhan ...	15 2 0	10 6 0	7 0 0	10 29 0	Say 3 8	2 12
2. Bhadai dhan ...	9 39 0	7 0 0	4 36 0	7 12 0	1 8	0 92
3. Mustard	2 32 0	1 30 0	1 2 0	1 35 0	1 0	0 6
4. Thakuri	2 32 0	2 4 0	1 2 0	1 39 0	1 1	0 64
5. Arahur	2 4 0	1 16 0	1 2 0	1 20 0	1 4	0 76
6. Masuri	3 6 0	1 30 0	1 2 0	1 39 0	0 12	0 48

TABLE VI.

Crops grown.	Number of beegahs estimated for each crop.	Value of produce per beegah.	Total value of produce of each crop.	The same reduced for standard beegahs.
		S. R. A.	S. R. A.	R. A. G.
Shalido (aghani and bhadai dhan)	2	4 0	8	9
Shali lal (aghani dhan only)	6	3 8	21 0	12 12 8
Bhadai dhan only	1	1 8	1 8	0 14 7
Sirreedo (mustard and bhadai dhan)	1	2 0	2 0	1 3 5
Serree lal (mustard only)	1	1 0	1 0	0 9 8
Thakurido (kalai and bhadai dhan)	1	2 1	2 1	1 4 1
Thakuri lal (kalai only)	1	1 1	1 1	0 10 4
Arahur	1	1 4	1 4	0 12 1
Musurdo (mussur and bhadai dhan)	1	1 12	1 12	1 1 0
Mussur lal (mussur only)	1	0 12	0 12	0 7 3
Total ...	16		40 6	24 24
Deduct for seed $\frac{1}{16}$th and fraction	.....	.....	2 6	1 44
Remaining produce or S. Rs. 2-6 per beegah ...	.....	.....	38 0	22 8

Names applied to the various descriptions of land, and currently used in Rungpore.

These are all terms applied to the land occupied by houses and the adjoining compound and garden land. Ut-bastu is such land which has been deserted and afterwards brought into cultivation. A distinction is drawn in assessment between the land thus occupied by the tenant himself and that made over to his dependents, the former being called khodbári, the latter projábári. Palán means the compound which remains uncultivated.

Bastu, khodbári, bhandui, bastu, bastu bala, bastu kantaldala, ut-bastu, and palan.

This is the principal distribution of lands under cultivation observed in several pergunnahs. The first is a rich mixed soil fit for all kinds of crops. The second is a stiff red soil hardly suitable for any crop except winter rice. The last is chiefly sand.

Pali, khear, bala.

Are names given to various sorts of broken lands, such as sandy hollows, ground left waste for pasture, unculturable land, ditches, watercourses, &c.

Dal, danga, ghair nik bhanga, jali bhanga.

Are applied to alluvial lands. The second applying to those broken by the action of the river. The third, to sandy chars; and the last, to land reformed on the site of former land and subject to inundation.

Char, chara bhanga, balu chara, bhar.

This is simply a classification of land into those of the first, second, third, and fourth quality; the first and second class produce all crops, the second being only less productive than the first. The third is land of the lowest description generally fitted to produce only winter rice. The fourth is poor, high, sandy soil, such as can produce crops only very scantily and at intervals, and generally waste.

Awal, doyam, sayam, chaharam.

A classification adopted in particular places for the land according as it is of a rich or a poor quality.

Pur ja-it, kham ja-it.

Another classification met with of land according as it is of a high or low description, the first being fitted for all crops, the latter chiefly being dhan land.

Uncha, nicha.

This is a classification adopted according as the land gives one or two crops in the course of year, the first corresponding to the khear land before mentioned.

Ek khanda, do khanda.

This is dhan land classed according to whether it produces aus dhán or only aman dhán.

Fasl char maha, fasl at maha.

Is land cultivated by what are called paikhust ryots, *i.e.*, those who reside in some other village than where their crop is.

Pai fasl dhani.

This signifies that an average rate is struck for the land, and is assessed irrespective of the quality of the soil.

Ek dari, harek susya.

This is orchard or garden land.

Bag.

These are lands producing bamboos, thatching grass, betel-leaf, betelnut, and sugarcane, respectively. Whatever be the mode of assessment generally applied in a village, separate rates are usually assessed on these crops as being particularly remunerative.

Bans, kher, baruj, supari, ikshu.

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Names of Pergunnahs.	Names of Villages.	Assessment.	Area of do. in square feet.	Bastu bari or khood bari.	Chaudni bastu.	Bastu lal.	Bastu bala.	Bastu kailal dola.	Bastu or palan.	Praja bari.	Poli.	Khear.	Bala.	Dol.	Danga.	Ghair laik bhanga.	Tola bhanga.	Charura.	Byat.	Char.	Balu Char.	[illegible]
Kankina	Kt. Bunchuk	Don	11,619	3·25																		
,,	Bhotmari	,,		2·6						2·27												
,,	Binbina	,,		1·9						1·62				·32	·4							
,,	Simulbari	,,																				
Svaruppur	Ramnathpur	Bigha	25,200	1·8					1·5													
Bajitpur	Rahamut	,,																				
,,	Singhdanga	,,		2·4																		
Bogra	Kamdeb	,,	22,126	·9					·9									·6	·9			
,,	Gondoram	,,		2·7					2·07										2·07			
,,	Gopeenathpur	Bis	287,638																			
,,	Kt.	Hal	221,260																			
Panga	Kursumari	Don	11,236	4·08									{·51 ·425 ·34}									
,,	Ratinadun	,,																				
,,	Nakhenda	,,																				
,,	Dhusmata	,,		·68																		
Purbbhag	Habibgunge	,,	15,006	3·387					2·301													
Barabilla	......	Bigha	21,830								1·4	·875	·875									
Kajirhat	Akuskuri	Don	12,844										{·45 ·3}		{·45 ·3}							
,,	Baroghuria	,,		{4·05 & 4·8}																		
Manthona	Mandal	,,	10,677	4·35													·54	·54				
,,	Nobimdas	,,				5·8	4·35	2·9						·36		·72	·54					
,,	Runchundi	,,		5·8															·36		·1	
,,	Judunath	,,		5·8																		
Basath	Nakhenda	,,	10,166																			
,,	Gopal	,,																				
,,	Mahesmuri	,,		2·25																		
,,	Rumpur	,,		10 rates	2 rates																	
Batasun	......	Bigha	22,126								1·38	·86										
Patiladaho	Boyecharaikan	,,	16,042							{2·85 & 2·37}												
Gyabari	Nolia	Bis	176,917																			
,,	[illegible]																					
Bhiterbund	Kaunsamoti	Hal																				
,,	Ramkhana	Bigha		·57																		
Bharbund	Gyadeeram	,,	26,676	2·28					1·14										1·42	5·18		
,,	Chaparhati	......		·825																		
,,	Dhonsrchar	......		·285																		
Kundi	Chandonpat	Don		·825																		
,,	Aulpur	,,																				
Tepa	Huri Doss	,,	11,733										·48		·48							
Bagduar	Aprokas	Bigha	26,569	1·74																		
Talook Kristae	Ruhimapur	,,	23,180	2·64					1·32													
,,	Metapuker	,,									1·32		·825									
Futehpur	Galurhota	Don	10,506	{·47 1·54}											·17							
Udasi	Kalicharan	,,	11,677											·35								
Andua	Shahpur	,,	23,180						·495													

Names of Pergunnahs.	Names of Villages.	Awal.	Doyam.	Chayam.	Chaharam.	Chukani.	Muhurari.	Purjait.	Ramjait.	Uncha.	Nicha.	Bans.	Kher.	Baruj.	Guya bari.	Ikbo.
Kankina	Kt. Bunchuk	·27	1·62	1·3	·975							2·6	·975			
,,	Bhotmari	1·9	1·62	1·3	·8	·32						2·27	1·3			
,,	Binbina	1·45	1·3	1·04	·9			1·2	·7			1·63	·9	1·62		
,,	Simulbari							2·5								
Svaruppur	Ramnathpur	1·5	1·2	·9	·6											
Bajitpur	Rahamut									1·2	·6					
,,	Singhdanga		1·05	1·05	·15											1·6
Bogra	Kamdeb										·6					
,,	Gondoram											2·07		3·4	2·7	
,,	Gopeenathpur	·265	·212	·159	·106											
,,	Kt.															
Panga	Kursumari							{5 rates from 1·445 to 1·2}	{·935 ·85 ·68}							
,,	Ratinadun															
,,	Nakhenda															
,,	Dhusmata	1·7	1·445	1·275	·102			·51	·34			·68	·68	2·72		
Purbbhag	Habibgunge							·887						4·155		
Barabilla	......															
Kajirhat	Akuskuri	1·5	1·2	·9	·6											
,,	Baroghuria	{1·8 3·4 ·75}	{1·5 2·1 3·15}	{1·2 1·35 ......}	{1·35 1·2 ·6}							{·75 1·2 ·9}	{·75 1·2 ·9}			
Manthona	Mandal	2	1·8	1·54	·99							·72	·72			
,,	Nobimdas	2·045	1·67	1·305	2·45							1·305	1·08			
,,	Runchundi					·36		1·5	1·5			1·26	·9			
,,	Judunath				·36			1·125	·765			·765			7·25	
Basath	Nakhenda															
,,	Gopal															
,,	Mahesmuri	1·87	1·5	1·3	·93											
,,	Rumpur		6 rates	7 rates	5 rates											
Batasun	......															
Patiladaho	Boyecharaikan											2·37				
Gyabari	Nolia	·609	·435	2·61	·174											
,,	[illegible]	·435	·348	2·61	·174											
Bhiterbund	Kaunsamoti															
,,	Ramkhana															
Bharbund	Gyadeeram											1·425				
,,	Chaparhati											·825				
,,	Dhonsrchar															
Kundi	Chandonpat	·75	·64	·5	·285											
,,	Aulpur	·71	·57	·43	·285											
Tepa	Huri Doss	4 rates	4 rates	4 rates	4 rates								·48			
Bagduar	Aprokas	·72	·58	·43	·29		105									1·6
Talook Kristae	Ruhimapur											1·485				
,,	Metapuker															
Futehpur	Galurhota	·84						·84	8·32							
Udasi	Kalicharan								·99							
Andua	Shahpur															

Names of Pergunnahs.	Names of Villages.	Ek Khanda.	Do Khanda.	Fasl char maha.	Fasl ali maha.	Harek Sasya.	Ropai jummah laik.	Fasli jummah.	Rai fasal dhan.	Ekfasl.	Kacha.	Remarks.
Kankina	Kt. Bunchuk											
,,	Bhotmari											
,,	Binbina											
,,	Simulbari											
Svaruppur	Ramnathpur											These are given as the uniform rates of the pergunnah.
Bajitpur	Rahamut											
,,	Singhdanga											
Bogra	Kamdeb	·3	·3									
,,	Gondoram		·7									
,,	Gopeenathpur											
,,	Kt.											28 per beegah for all kinds of land.
Panga	Kursumari											
,,	Ratinadun											Nineteen rates bearing no specific names, from 1·448 to ·319.
,,	Nakhenda											Thirty-seven rates similarly varying from 2·21 to ·17.
,,	Dhusmata											
Purbbhag	Habibgunge											
Barabilla	......											These were established as the uniform rates throughout the pergunnah after the decennial settlement by Mr. Hodge, who abolished the old rates.
Kajirhat	Akuskuri											
,,	Baroghuria									·9		
Manthona	Mandal											
,,	Nobimdas											
,,	Runchundi									·72		
,,	Judunath									·36		
Basath	Nakhenda											There are 15 rates given for this village, apparently independent of the quality of the soil.
,,	Gopal											The lands of this village are said to be let ticca, so much a don, and there are said to be no fixed rates.
,,	Mahesmuri									2 rates		
,,	Rumpur											
Batasun	......											These rates are given as the uniform rates of the pergunnah.
Patiladaho	Boyecharaikan									·35		The rates of the pergunnah are said to be faslwari. Every village has its own rates according to the crops grown. In this village the rates are—Onions 3, jute 1.
Gyabari	Nolia											
,,	[illegible]											
Bhiterbund	Kaunsamoti											The ryots of this and other villages pay so much a plough, of from 10 to 11 beegahs of land. The rate [illegible] is 4, not variable according to the nature of the soil, and an average rate of ·418 for all other lands. Some of the villages have from three to four rates, from ·678 to ·321, called Hardura; some, in addition, have the awal doyam, &c., rates.
,,	Ramkhana											
Bharbund	Gyadeeram	·24	·43									
,,	Chaparhati	·21	·36									
,,	Dhonsrchar					·07						
Kundi	Chandonpat											
,,	Aulpur			·285	·43							
Tepa	Huri Doss											
Bagduar	Aprokas											
Talook Kristae	Ruhimapur						1·32	·66				
,,	Metapuker						1·32	·66				
Futehpur	Galurhota								{·7 ·43 ·35}			
Udasi	Kalicharan								{·99 ·35}			
Andua	Shahpur											

An attempt has been made in the accompanying table to give specimens of all the classification of soil to be found in the Kanoongoes' papers referred to. The names of the soils are very numerous, and there is nothing in the papers to explain their significance. In the absence of proper books of reference, it is impossible to do more than guess at the meaning of some of them, or, at the best, to rely on the explanation given by natives, who generally are more anxious to convey information than to test its accuracy. It will be seen that the modes of assessment are very various, and that in the one pergunnah more system than one are most frequently adopted. Patiladaha is the only one, however, where the faslwári assessment appears then to have continued in force in its integrity. In the other pergunnahs, either the jatwári (জাতওয়ারি) or rakamwári (রকমওয়ারি) assessment has been adopted, or the land has been assessed at a general rate irrespective of its quality. Only in a very few pergunnahs, such as Svaruppur, Barabilla, and Islamábád, and these by no means the most important in the district, do, what can be called pergunnah rates, exist at all. In the rest, the assessment is fixed independently for each village.

The rates stated in these Kanoongoes' papers are still supposed, as a rule, to represent what is demandable from the ryots at the present day, and in cases of dispute they are still referred to. Local investigations only can show what now is actually paid by the cultivators of the soil. As these rates were formerly fixed merely on a rough and often partial estimate of the amount of land held by the tenant, his rent has now-a-days, from the more accurate system of measurement employed, virtually been increased. If measurement be not in such cases actually employed, the power of enforcing it put by law in the hands of the zemindar quickly brings the ryots to terms. The following estimate of the present rates, payable by the tenantry, has been supplied by the Superintendent of the Rani Surnomoye's large estate in this district.

1st quality	Awl ... আওয়াল	4 0 to 4 0 per std. beegah	Pân baruj ...	2 0 to 5 0 per std. beegah.
2nd „ ...	Doyam ... দোয়ম	0 12 „ 3 0	Palún ... পালান	2 0 „ 3 8 „ „
3rd „ ...	Châyam ... সেয়ম	0 8 „ 1 8, two crop land	Dokhunda ... দোখন্দা	0 10 „ 1 8 „ „
4th „ ...	Chaharam ... চাহারম	0 2 „ 0 10, one crop land	Ek. khunda ... এক খন্দা	0 6 „ 0 12 „ „
Homestead	Bastu ... বাস্তু	1 0 „ 4 0, cultivable waste	Laik patit ... লায়কপড়তি	0 6 „ 0 12 „ „
	Ujur bastu ... উজাড়বাস্ত	1 0 „ 3 0, old pân garden	Bhanga baruj . ভাঙ্গা বরজ	1 0 „ 3 8 „
Garden ...	Baghat ... বাগাত	1 0 „ 3 0, palm trees ...	Tál ... তাল	2 0 „ 3 0 „ „
Grass ...	Khar ... খড়	0 10 „ 1. 8, jute ...	Koshta ... কোষ্টা	1 8 „ 8 0 „ „
Bamboo ...	Bâns ... বাঁশ	0 10 „ 1 8, rice seedlings...	Bichhan kancha বিছন কাঁচা	0 10 „ 1 8 „ „
Sugarcane	Ikshu ... ইক্ষু	2 0 „ 5 0, mulberry ... indigo ...		

The rates in Svaruppur are reported to be still the same as those laid down in the Kanoongoes' papers, but local enquiry seems to show that bastu and ut-bastu lands are now chargeable at a rate 8 annas higher than formerly. The following rates have been extracted from Act X. suits decided in this Collectorate.

Names of Pergunnahs.	Names of Villages	Class of Soil.	Local Rate.	Of Assessment.	Rate per standard beegah.
			Rs. A. P		
Bhitarband ... ভিতরবন্দ	Taraf Kerimpur তরফ করিম পুর	Bastu ... বাস্তু	4 3 4	Beegah ... বিঘা	2·406
		Pálun ... পালান	4 3 4		2·406
		Do-khanda ... দোখন্দা	1 5 4		·758
		Ek-khanda ... এক খন্দা	0 12 9		·467
		Bamboos ... বাঁশ	4 3 8		2 408
		Bichhun kácha ... বিছন কাচা	0 12 9		·467
		Khar ... খড়	2 10 8		1·534
		Bagut ... বাগাৎ	4 3 4		2·406
Pángá ... পাঙ্গা	Ramram ... রাম রাম	Awal ... আওয়াল	0 12 9	Don ... দোন	1·083
		Doyam ... দায়েম	0 10 8		·906
		Chhayam ... সোয়েম	0 8 7		·729
		Chaharam ... চাহারম	0 4 4		·368
Fatipur ... ফতেপুর	Santas Obram সন্তোস অভিরাম	Uncha ... উচা	7 8 0	Bis ... বিশ	·53
		Nicha ... নিচা	5 0 0		·35

Names of Pergunnahs.	Names of Villages.	Class of Soil.	Local Rate.	Of Assessment.	Rate per standard beegah.
Básátta ... ... বাসত্ত	Bighabagish .. .. বিদ্যা বাগিস	Bastu ... ... বাস্তু	2 10 8	Don ... দোন	4·01
		Praja bastu ... ... প্রজা বাস্তু	2 1 0		3·09
		Palan ... ... পালান	1 1 0		1·59
		Bagan ... ... বাগান	1 10 0		2·4
		Khar ... ... খড	0 6 5		·59
		Bans ... ... বাঁশ	1 5 1		2·
		Awal ... ... আওয়াল	1 5 4		2·
		Doyam ... ... দোয়েম	1 1 1		1·59
		Sayam ... ... সোয়েম	0 12 9		1·197
		Chaharam ... ... চাহারম	0 8 6		·79
Kundi ... ... কুণ্ডি	Hareray Kuthi ... হাড়িয়ার কুঠি	Awal ... ... আওয়াল	1 0 1	Don .. দোন	1·190
		Doyam ... ... দোয়েম	0 13 0		·89
		Sayam ... ... সোয়েম	0 10 8		·733
		Chaharam ... ... চাহারম	0 8 7		·317
Sarhatta ... ... সরহট্টা	Harar para ... ... হাড়ার পাড়া	Bastu ... ... বাস্তু	2 2 0	Bigah ... বিঘা	
		Doyam ... ... দোয়েম	1 14 0		
		Sayam ... ... সোয়েম	1 12 0		
		Chaharam ... ... চাহারম	0 12 10		

Names of Pergunnahs.	Names of Villages.	Class of Soil.	Local Rate.	Of Assessment.	Rate per standard beegah.
Muktipur ... ... মুক্তিপুর	Khamar Bowali ... খামার বোয়ালি	Khod basta .. ... খোদ বাস্ত	4 4 9	Beegah ... বিঘা	
		Ut-basta ... ... উদবাস্ত	1 5 10		
		Bágán ... ... বাগসান	1 5 10		
		Bans ... ... বাঁশ	1 5 10		
		Pálán ... ... পালান	1 5 10		
		Khar .. .. খড়	1 1 7		
		Awul ... ... অওয়াল	1 5 10		
		Doyam ... ... দোয়েম	1 1 7		
		Sayam . ... সায়েম	0 10 7		

There is no reason to suppose that Act X. has resulted in anything like a general enhancement of rate in this district, nor have its operations been very remarkable in any particular part of it. The fact that so small a proportion of the ryots possess a right of occupancy sufficiently accounts for this. The ryots generally are settled for a term only, and on the expiry of their engagements have to make the best bargain they can with their landlords. There is reason to think that enhanced rent is gained more generally by the exaction of cesses than by any attempts to change long existing rates. The figures given in the answer to paragraph 3 sufficiently show that, as far as the operation of Act X. comes to the surface in bringing cases into court, its effects had been trifling. The fear of being dragged into a law-suit, however, is amply sufficient to cause a considerable amount of pressure to be borne in silence. The cesses reported to be most generally levied now are—

(1.) Mangan (মাঙ্গন), a cess levied by zemindars on the marriage and death of members of their family.

(2.) Agamuni (আগমনি), that levied on the zemindars visiting their estates.

(3.) Annaprasun (অন্নপ্রাশন), ditto on the weaning of the zemindar's children.

(4.) Sadhi salami (সাদিসেলামি), ditto on the marriage of the zemindar.

(5.) Sadhunkul (সাধনা কুল), ditto on conception by his wife.

(6.) Butta (বাটা), exchange on coin paid in as rent.

(7.) Narmana (নরমানা), fee paid on breaking up waste land, and on it appearing, by measurement, that the tenant holds more land than specified in his engagements.

8. Márcha (মাড়চা), presents to the zemindar on a ryot marrying his children to any one.

9. Izardári (ইজারদারি), cess levied by the farmers as their perquisite, but sometimes partly payable to the zemindar.

Manure is generally used in this district only in the cultivation of sugarcane, tobacco, jute, and mustard. The substances used are either cow-dung or oil-cake alone, or a mixture of three parts of the former to one of the latter; indigo weed and decaying vegetable matter drawn from the bheels and rivers. Eighteen to twenty maunds of cow-dung would be considered a liberal allowance per standard beegah if used alone, or twelve to fourteen maunds if mixed with oil-cake; but sometimes as much as fifteen maunds of oil-cake is allowed to a single beegah of sugarcane. Ten maunds of oil-cake, mixed with fresh earth, are yearly allowed in pân gardens. Indigo weed is chiefly used in the cultivation of tobacco and mustard, but unfortunately is scarce. For a single beegah four cart loads would be considered ample. Decaying refuse is spread upon the land, not by calculation but according to the amount available. This generally, too, is the case with cow-dung, which is not here an article of commerce. What remains in the homestead after supplying the family with fuel is spread upon the fields. Four maunds of oil-cake, or forty loads of indigo weed, may be got for Rs. 3. The only other method adopted for replenishing the earth are burning jungle on it, which is commonly done, and leaving it fallow, which unfortunately is too seldom done. It is only in the cultivation of ginger, sugarcane, and turmeric, that it is usual to leave the land fallow. In the case of the first crop, the land is allowed to remain so for two, three, or even five years, and is then called khil (খিল). It is not customary to grow tobacco two years running on the same land, but otherwise no rotation of crops is known or practised in this district. Each cultivator sows his crops at the dictates merely of fancy or prejudice, and in many cases will not vary it for a crop to which he has not been accustomed; though to do so would produce him certain gain. Irrigation is not practised, nor is it necessary in this district.

Blights are of very frequent occurrence in this district, but fortunately they are very partial in their operation, destroying only crops of a few kinds, and not attacking the rice which is the staple of the district. The crops chiefly attacked are kalài and mustard. The destroying agents are insects, called the mendá (মেণ্ডা) and the àcha (আচা). Their generation is said to depend on the wetness, or otherwise, of the season. This year the kalài crops in the eastern parts of the district, if not throughout the whole of it, were entirely eaten up by these grubs. The agriculturists attribute the misfortune, though it is impossible to say with what truth, to the unusually heavy fall of rain during the

nonths of June and July last. Last month, in a similar way, the mustard crop was in the process of destruction. It was melancholy to see whole fields of most promising mustard hopelessly infected with the plague of the insects called àcha. These are large hersute caterpillars, somewhat like what are very common in Britain. All the natives consulted however, and many of them men of some intelligence, denied that this caterpillar assumed the chrysalis state. The best testimony, however, to the inaccuracy of this statement, was the action taken by one of these insects, which, on being enclosed in a box, very shortly constructed a sort of cocoon, inside which it still lies in the chrysalis state. Another assertion made by the natives was, that these insects had a poisonous effect on the human skin if touched; but as none of them was willing to be experimented on, this matter has not been tested. Of late years the mango crop also in this district has been completely ruined by a sort of elephantiform insect of minute stature, which appears to be generated inside the fruit, and to eat its way out on the mango ripening. On more than one occasion, too, this district has been visited by locusts, who have desolated the country in the path of their flight. Affecting, however, a very small portion of the district on the one occasion, they have not produced any widely-felt evil. The impotency of man is nowhere more remarkable than when it is an insect plague he has to combat—the supply of insects being infinitely greater than he can ever hope to destroy. The cultivators accordingly have no alternative but silently to submit to their misfortunes, till science shall discover some means of spreading disease and death among the insect tribes.

This district has been peculiarly happy in having had no experience, within the memory of living man, of famine, whether caused by inundation or by drought. The complaint of the cultivators has more often been that they had more rice on their hands than they could manage to dispose of at a remunerative price than that they could not sell their corn for a sufficiency of subsistence. This district, though it rarely has been visited by flood, is undoubtedly subject to them. They occur when heavy rains in the Himalayas are supplemented by continued bad weather in the district itself. Though last year the local rains were said to have been unprecedentedly heavy, and the rivers were all brimful, no damage whatever was done, and the rice crop this winter is unusually fine. It is the eastern part of the district chiefly which is subject to river inundation. It lies comparatively low, and is intersected by numerous rivers. Of these, the largest, the Brahmaputra, the Dalla, and the Teesta, are continually more or less shifting their beds, and frequently overflow the country. Unfortunately, unlike the Nile, they do not usually carry fertilizing matter in suspension in their water, but most frequently cover the land with deposits of sand which become productive only in the course of time. It is the local rainfall that fertilizes the soil, and on it depends the productiveness of the crops. There is a considerable distinction in this district between high and low lands, and there are varieties of dhan specially suited for these kinds of lands individually. If a proper use of this circumstance be made, undoubtedly the bad effects of the heaviest local rains can, to

a certain extent, be counterbalanced by the increased fertility of the high lands. At the same time these effects are very considerably impaired by the fact that in heavy rains, especially on high lands, weed and jungle grow up in rank luxuriance, and the soil is rendered so moist that any attempt to root these up must result in a very considerable destruction of the crop itself, which, on the other hand, if left unweeded, is choked. The experience of this district seems to show that famine is to be dreaded as the result of inundation only, when it is the joint result of local rains and the swelling of the mountain torrents to the north. The only year in which it has been ascertained that any damage was thus done here of so serious a nature as to result in famine, was the Bengal year 1194 (1787-88).....

About five and twenty years ago some considerable floods occurred, but they do not appear to have affected the general harvest seriously. In a similar way, in 1263, the crops on the low lands in parts of the districts were destroyed, but the produce of the rest was ample to prevent distress.

There are no important embankments in this district or other works designed to protect the crops against flood, and it is most fortunate that there are none, as such works generally effect more mischief than they obviate. They prevent the river waters reaching land when it may be essential that they should reach, and when an emergency does occur, they generally give way to the flood and render the violence of the pent-up water ten times more destructive than it would have been, had the river been allowed to spread gradually over the whole surface of the country. The constant series of mishaps which occurred in the Bhatoria District, when last century efforts were made to confine the waters of the rivers there by embankments under the special superintendence of a European Officer, shows how futile such efforts are, and bears testimony to the wisdom which caused these works to be abandoned. It might certainly be of some advantage to the district had it works which should enable the cultivators to control to some extent the application of the yearly water-supply, and to flood and drain their fields at pleasure. It seems, however, very doubtful whether any results commensurate to the outlay, which would be necessary, could be obtained.....

.....

INDUSTRIAL.

This being a purely agricultural district, manufactures are all in a very backward state. The only one in which there can be the slightest reason for saying that the district possesses a specialty is the weaving of satrunjis (সতরঞ্চি), a sort of coarse colored cotton cloth, used as carpeting. There is no peculiarity in the weaving of these. Specimens are about to be sent to Calcutta as contributions to the International Exhibition; so it is not thought necessary to incur the expense of procuring others to accompany this report. The manufacture of satrunjis is carried on chiefly near head-quarters and at Nesbitgunj. At the latter place, and also at Jaffergunj, a considerable number of persons are

employed in the manufacture of cart wheels and other rough country carpentry. Indian matting of the ordinary description (শপ) is also made to some extent near head-quarters, while from parts more to the north and east there is some export of the mats made of kussa grass (কুশাসন). Such other manufactures as the district possesses are of the most homely nature, and intended chiefly for the consumption of the producers or of their immediate neighbours. The Mussulman peasantry very commonly manufacture for their own use a sort of coarse silk cloth (ইণ্ডি কাপড়), the thread being spun from the cocoon of a sort of caterpillar which feeds on the castor-oil plants. This shrub is to be seen around nearly every house, providing the inmates with oil for their lamps and with food for the worms. In the southern part of the district silk culture is carried on to some extent, but the cocoons are chiefly exported to Bogra and Rajshahye, where the silk is wound off. In a fair year some four hundred mans of the cocoons may thus leave the district, while not more than seventy mans of spun raw silk is exported. The carpentry and metal work of this district are of the rudest description; and indeed in every branch of manufacture there is a total absence of that delicacy of taste and fineness of manipulation so conspicuous in other parts of India. At one time there were several families settled at Barabari, who manufactured ornamental articles from buffalo horn and ivory with considerable taste. The manager of the Punga estate, on which they lived, says that these families are almost extinct, and that the manufacture consequently has died out. From these remarks it may be judged that it would be vain to attempt an art history of a district where art cannot be said to exist. It is said that hired laborers as a class are here particularly addicted to the use of opium; and this may account for their want of skill and general inefficiency as workmen. No well-marked distinction has yet taken place between capital and labor. Manufactures, such as they are, are generally carried on by the members of a family for their own advantage. Some of the more fortunate households, however, are led from their success to extend their operations, and either give out work to be done by others at their homes, or employ hired laborers to join their family, and live and work with them. Such service is generally entered into for a term, the greater part of the wages of a year being advanced as a sort of bounty. In this way a sort of virtual slavery exists, for the improvident often have to enter into such engagements to clear off their liabilities. The term of the engagements is settled by the parties themselves, according to their respective exigencies; but a skilful workman will always be able to get better terms than another. Monthly engagements are not uncommon in some trades. The wages are said to vary from Rs. 5 to 8 per mensem. Such, for instance, are the terms commonly obtained by country carpenters. The social condition of the manufacturing classes is quite the same as that of the ordinary run of the peasantry. It is not at all unfrequent for various members of the artizan's family with whom he may reside to cultivate land in which he may be a part sharer, or for him otherwise to get his little holding cultivated; and there is nothing in his condition to distinguish him from the surrounding ryots. There is

no class of laborers hereditarily attached to a manufacture in a manner that affects their personal freedom. Manufactures are carried on to a small extent in the Rungpore Jail, but beyond this the laborers attached to manufactures are quite as free as other classes of the community.

The chief articles exported from this district are rice, tobacco, ginger, jute, turmeric, mustard seed, indigo, cocoons, chillies, potatoes, oats, bamboos, raw sugar, ghee, cow hides, fish, satrunjis, bamboo mats, prayer mats, tejputra, fruits, &c. The chief imports are cotton, salt, refined sugar, opium, gunja, imported liquors, manufactured cotton goods, manufactured silk, timber, iron, lead, brass, and bell-metal vessels, refined sugar, boots, canoes, Birmingham-ware, cattle, horses, up-country sheep, &c. The country produce is chiefly bought up by brokers, who travel about the country and advance on the crops, and when they are gathered in, ship the produce chiefly to large marts, such as Dacca and Serajgunj. There are large warehouses along the banks of the principal rivers, such as the Teesta and the Brahmaputra, where the goods are stored till they can be conveniently shipped. The tobacco trade is almost entirely in the hands of the Mugs, who ship it to Calcutta and Chittagong. Mustard seed and rice go to Assam, and the latter also is shipped to Serajgunj. Almost the whole of the jute produced in the district goes to Serajgunj. It is no uncommon thing for Rs. 50,000 to be drawn from the treasury, for the purpose of advancing money to the cultivators and buying the produce on behalf of Serajgunj traders. The cocoons are almost all sent to Bogra, Tahirpore, and other parts of Rajshahye. Dacca takes chillies, potatoes, satrunjis, and oats; while Calcutta takes indigo. The cotton is chiefly imported from the Garrow Hills through Goalpara. A considerable quantity is brought to Salmari and other hâts on the eastern borders of the district, and thence finds its way into the interior. The foreign and manufactured goods almost exclusively now come up from Calcutta by steamer, though some still continue to come *vid* Rajmehal by rail. From the northern hills come the timber, Bhootea ponies, blankets. The Nepalese yearly bring down large quantities of ghee. There are two fairs of considerable importance in the district, both held in the spring—one at Rungpore, the other at Darwani. Cattle and horses are the chief articles sold at both. Of the permanent places of trade, Mahigunj is the only one of special importance. In it a large number of Kaians are congregated, who appear to do a thriving trade. Banking operations are also there carried on by one or two houses. There are no means unfortunately by which any information as to the relative value of the exports and the imports of the district can be obtained. No figures given could have the faintest pretension to accuracy even of an approximate character.....

.....

The most usual way in which agriculturists obtain loans of money here is by taking advances for their produce from the brokers. This money is re-payable without interest in kind, the produce being valued at a certain low fixed rate, dharta (ধরতা), such as may be agreed

upon at the time irrespective of the current market rates. Thus, an indigo manufacturer would receive six bundles to the rupee from those to whom he had made advances, while he might get only three from free producers. Again, while jute this season was selling at Rs. 3, Rs. 4, and Rs. 5 a man, the agriculturists were furnishing the brokers with it at Re. 1-8, Re. 1-12, and Rs. 2. This system is chiefly followed with regard to jute, sugar, tobacco, indigo, and ginger. Six pie is the usual rate of interest on small sums monthly per rupee, when ornaments, &c. have been pledged for their re-payment. On personal security 9 pie per rupee per mensem is the usual charge. The former is a far less common mode of borrowing than the latter, in which case some friends often become security for the borrower. For sums above Rs. 100 the usual rate of interest is one per cent. per mensem, whether or not movable or immovable property be pledged. The rate varies, however, according to the circumstances of the case and the exigency of the borrower. For sums under Rs. 100, the rates vary in the interior from one to six and a quarter per cent. per mensem; but if the amount be above Rs. 12 or Rs. 13, six pie is the usual rate; and if below, 9 pie. It is worthy of remark, that eighty years ago the established rate of interest paid by the ryots in the mofussil was one anna per rupee per mensem, and according to this their accounts were always adjusted by the Government officers on complaint being made of excessive interest being charged. The money-lenders notwithstanding frequently managed to get 1¼ and 2 annas per rupee per mensem for their money. Loans to agriculturists are chiefly granted by petty village mahajans and by brokers. Larger sums, if required, are borrowed from the great bankers in Mahigunj.

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